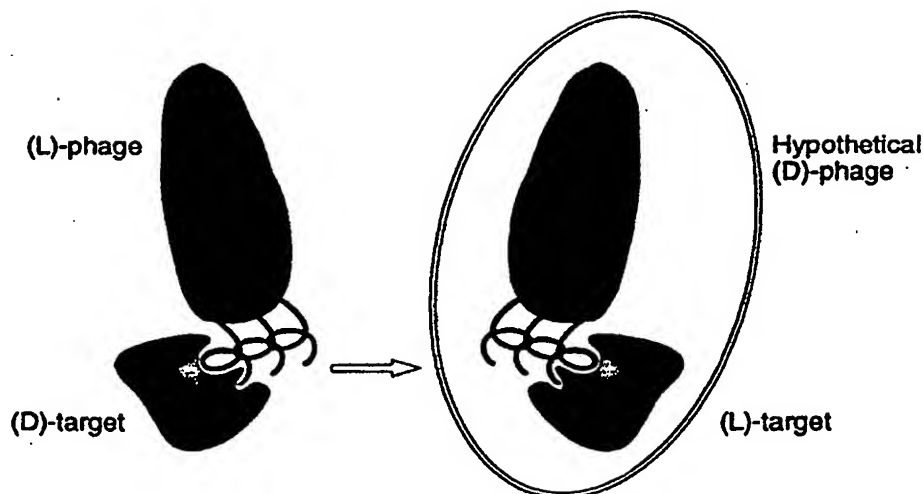




## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification <sup>6</sup> : <b>C07K 1/04, C07H 21/00, G01N 33/68, C07K 14/00</b>		<b>A1</b>	(11) International Publication Number: <b>WO 96/34879</b>
			(43) International Publication Date: <b>7 November 1996 (07.11.96)</b>
(21) International Application Number: <b>PCT/US96/06155</b>		(74) Agents: <b>GRANAHAN, Patricia et al.; Hamilton, Brook, Smith &amp; Reynolds, Two Militia Drive, Lexington, MA 02173 (US).</b>	
(22) International Filing Date: <b>2 May 1996 (02.05.96)</b>			
(30) Priority Data:		(81) Designated States: <b>CA, JP, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).</b>	
08/433,572	3 May 1995 (03.05.95)	US	
08/482,309	7 June 1995 (07.06.95)	US	
60/001,067	11 July 1995 (11.07.95)	US	
08/627,497	28 March 1996 (28.03.96)	US	
(60) Parent Application or Grant		Published <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>	
(63) Related by Continuation US Filed on <b>08/627,497 (CIP)</b> <b>28 March 1996 (28.03.96)</b>			
(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): <b>WHITEHEAD INSTITUTE FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH [US/US]; Nine Cambridge Center, Cambridge, MA 02142 (US).</b>			
(72) Inventors; and			
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): <b>SCHUMACHER, Antonius, Nicolaas, Maria [NL/US]; 14 Banks Street #3, Somerville, MA 02144 (US). KIM, Peter, S. [US/US]; 4 Middleby Road, Lexington, MA 02173 (US).</b>			

(54) Title: IDENTIFICATION OF ENANTIOMERIC LIGANDS



## (57) Abstract

A method of identifying macromolecules (peptides, oligonucleotides, sugars and macromolecular complexes, such as RNA-protein complexes, protein-lipid complexes), which are not of the natural handedness (not of the chirality as they occur in nature or as a wild type molecule) and which are ligands for other chiral macromolecules.

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## IDENTIFICATION OF ENANTIOMERIC LIGANDS

### Related Applications

This application is a Continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial Number 08/627,497, filed March 28, 1996, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. provisional application number 60/001,067, filed July 11, 1995, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S.S.N. 08/482,309, filed June 7, 1995, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S.S.N. 08/433,572, filed May 3, 1995, the teachings of which are incorporated herein by reference.

### Funding

Work described herein was funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute/Life Sciences Research Foundation.

### Background

Genetically encoded libraries of peptides and oligonucleotides are well suited for the identification of ligands for many macromolecules. However, a major drawback of biologically encoded libraries is that the resultant ligands are subject to degradation by naturally occurring enzymes. Furthermore, because of their sensitivity to cellular proteases, peptides composed of naturally occurring L-amino acids are efficiently processed for major histocompatibility complex class II-restricted presentation to T helper cells ( $T_H$  cells). As a result, L-peptides can induce a vigorous humoral immune response that impairs the activity of such drugs (Gill, T.J., et al., *Nature*, 197:746 (1963); Mauer, J., *J. Exp. Med.*, 121:339 (1965); Borek, F., et al., *Biochem. J.*, 96:577 (1965); Janeway, C.A. and Sela, M., *Immunol.*, 13:29 (1967); Dintzis, H.M., et al., *Proteins*, 16:306 (1993)).

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The enantiomers of macromolecules of natural handedness make better drugs than the macromolecules of natural handedness. In contrast to naturally occurring L-peptide sequences and D-nucleic acid sequences, the enantiomers of these naturally occurring macromolecules (e.g., D-peptides and L-nucleic acids) are not good substrates for naturally occurring proteases and nucleases. In addition, the enantiomers of naturally occurring molecules do not elicit an efficient immune response.

Availability of D-peptides and L-nucleic acids for use as drugs is desirable.

#### Summary of the Invention

The present invention is a method of identifying enantiomeric macromolecules (proteins, peptides, oligonucleotides, nucleic acids, sugars and macromolecular complexes, such as RNA-protein complexes and protein-lipid complexes), which are not of the natural handedness (not of the chirality as they occur in nature or as a wild type molecule) and which are ligands for other chiral macromolecules, which are referred to as target or desired macromolecules. Target or desired macromolecules include oligonucleotides (DNA, RNA) and proteins (e.g., polypeptides and peptides), such as hormones, enzymes, antibodies and antigens. In one embodiment, the present invention is a method of identifying D-amino acid peptide ligands which bind a target or desired L amino acid peptide. In a second embodiment, this invention is a method of identifying peptides comprised of D-amino acid residues that are ligands for oligonucleotides (RNA or DNA). In a further embodiment, the present invention is a method of identifying RNA or DNA oligonucleotides which are

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of the opposite chirality from that which occurs in nature. DNA occurs in nature as a D isomer.

In one embodiment, the present invention relates to a method of producing a macromolecule of non-natural handedness that binds to a target macromolecule of natural handedness (e.g., peptide, oligonucleotide), which is performed as follows: an enantiomer of the target macromolecule or of a domain characteristic of the target molecule is provided and contacted with a library of macromolecules of natural handedness, under conditions appropriate for binding of a macromolecule of natural handedness in the library with the enantiomer; as a result, the enantiomer binds a macromolecule of natural handedness present in the library. The enantiomer of the macromolecule of natural handedness which is bound to the enantiomer of the target macromolecule is produced; the enantiomer of the macromolecule of natural handedness is a macromolecule of non-natural handedness which binds to the target macromolecule of natural handedness. That is, the enantiomer of a macromolecule which is present in the library and binds to the enantiomer of the target molecule is produced; the result is a macromolecule of non-natural handedness which binds the target molecule (of natural handedness).

In the embodiment where the target macromolecule is a protein (e.g., peptide), a D amino acid peptide that binds to a target L peptide is produced. The method is performed as follows: a D amino acid peptide of the target L macromolecule or of a domain characteristic thereof and a library of L amino acid peptides are provided. The library and the D amino acid peptide of the target macromolecule are contacted under conditions appropriate for binding of an L amino acid peptide in the library with the D amino acid peptide; as a result, the D amino acid peptide binds an L amino acid peptide present in the library. An L amino

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acid peptide present in the library which is bound to the D amino acid peptide is identified and sequenced. A D amino acid peptide of the L amino acid peptide identified in the library or of a characteristic domain thereof is produced; the resulting D amino acid peptide binds to the target L macromolecule of natural handedness. That is, the enantiomer of the L amino acid peptide which is present in the library and binds to the D amino acid peptide of the target L macromolecule is produced; the result is a D amino acid peptide which binds the L-target macromolecule, which in this embodiment is an L amino acid peptide.

In the embodiment, where the target macromolecule is a protein (e.g., peptide), an L oligonucleotide that binds to a target L protein is produced. The method is performed as follows: a D amino acid peptide of the target L macromolecule or of a domain characteristic thereof and a library of D oligonucleotides are provided. The library is contacted with the D amino acid peptide under conditions appropriate for binding of a D oligonucleotides in the library with the D amino acid peptide, whereby the peptide binds a D oligonucleotides present in the library. A D oligonucleotide which is bound to the D amino acid peptide is identified and sequenced. An L oligonucleotide of the D oligonucleotide identified in the library or of a characteristic domain thereof, is produced; the L oligonucleotide binds to the target L macromolecule of non-natural handedness. That is, the enantiomer of the D oligonucleotide which is present in the library and binds to the D amino acid peptide of the target L macromolecule is produced; the result is an L oligonucleotide which binds the L-target macromolecule, which in this embodiment is an L amino acid peptide.

In another embodiment, the present invention relates to a method of producing a macromolecule of non-natural handedness that binds to a target macromolecule of natural

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handedness, which is performed as follows: an enantiomer of the target macromolecule or of a domain characteristic of the target molecule is provided and contacted with a library of macromolecules of natural handedness, under  
5 conditions appropriate for binding of a macromolecule of natural handedness in the library with the enantiomer; as a result, the enantiomer binds a macromolecule of natural handedness present in the library. A macromolecule of natural handedness which is bound to the enantiomer is  
10 identified and sequenced. The enantiomer of the macromolecule of non-natural handedness, which is bound to the enantiomer of the macromolecule of natural handedness or of a characteristic domain thereof, is produced; the resulting enantiomer of the macromolecule of natural  
15 handedness is a macromolecule of non-natural handedness which binds to the target macromolecule of natural handedness.

In a further embodiment of the present invention, an L amino acid peptide which binds a D amino acid peptide of  
20 interest is identified as follows: a phage display library which comprises L amino acid peptides displayed on phage surfaces is provided and contacted with the D amino acid peptide of interest, under conditions appropriate for binding of L amino acid peptides displayed on phage  
25 surfaces with the D amino acid peptide of interest. Phage which have on their surfaces the D amino acid peptide of interest, bound to an L amino acid peptide displayed on the surface (i.e., which have on their surfaces a D amino acid peptide-displayed L amino acid peptide complex) are  
30 identified. The displayed L amino acid peptide in the complex is an L amino acid peptide which binds the D amino acid of interest.

Optionally, the amino acid sequence of the L amino acid peptide displayed on the surface of the phage can be  
35 determined and the D amino acid peptide which corresponds

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to the amino acid sequence of the L amino acid peptide can be synthesized, resulting in production of a D amino acid peptide which corresponds to the L amino acid peptide displayed on the phage surface. In one embodiment, 5 described herein, L amino acid peptides displayed on phage surfaces bind D amino acid peptides of a class of proteins, specifically the SRC homology 3 domain (SH3 domain).

A further embodiment is a method of making a D amino acid protein which corresponds to a target L amino acid 10 protein, which can be any protein (including polypeptides, peptides) for which a binding peptide is desired. In this embodiment, a phage display library which comprises a mixture of proteins displayed on phage surfaces is contacted with a D amino acid peptide corresponding to the 15 target L amino acid protein or corresponding to a domain characteristic of the target L amino acid protein, under conditions appropriate for binding of L amino acid peptides displayed on phage surfaces with D amino acid proteins. The mixture comprises the target L amino acid protein or a 20 characteristic L amino acid peptide domain thereof. Phage which have on their surfaces the D amino acid peptide bound to an L amino acid peptide displayed on the surface are identified. The amino acid sequences of the L amino acid peptides displayed on the surfaces of phages identified are 25 determined and a D amino acid protein which corresponds to an amino acid sequence of an L amino acid peptide is synthesized, resulting in production of a D amino acid peptide which corresponds to the target L amino acid protein.

30 The present invention also relates to a method of obtaining an L oligonucleotide nucleic acid sequence which binds an L amino acid peptide of interest. In this method, a collection of D nucleic acid sequences (e.g., a DNA library) is provided and contacted with a D amino acid 35 peptide of interest, under conditions appropriate for



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binding of the D nucleic acid with the D amino acid peptide of interest. A D nucleic acid which binds to the D amino acid peptide is isolated and the nucleotide sequence of the D nucleic acid is determined. The D nucleic acid sequence which binds to the D amino acid peptide of interest is prepared using L nucleotides, resulting in the production of an L nucleic acid sequence which binds an L amino acid peptide. A further embodiment of the invention relates to a method of obtaining an L nucleic acid sequence which binds a D nucleic acid which comprises providing a collection of D nucleic acid sequences and contacting the D nucleic acid sequences with an L nucleic acid sequence. A D nucleic acid sequence which binds to the L nucleic acid sequence, thereby producing a D nucleic acid sequence - L nucleic acid sequence complex, is identified. The nucleotide sequence of the D nucleic acid sequence which binds to the L nucleic acid sequence is determined. The D nucleic acid sequence is synthesized using L nucleotides, resulting in the production of an L nucleic acid sequence which binds a D nucleic acid.

Also the subject of the present invention are synthetic D amino acid peptides, such as D amino acid peptides identified and produced by the methods described herein, including but not limited to synthetic amino acid peptides which bind the SH3 domain, synthetic D amino acid peptides corresponding to all or a portion of the SH3 domain and, more generally, synthetic D amino acid peptides which bind a domain of an intracellular signaling protein. In addition, oligonucleotides (RNA, DNA) of non-natural handedness, such as oligonucleotides identified and produced by the methods described herein are the subject of this invention.

The present invention also relates to a process for producing a derivative of a macromolecule of non-natural handedness that binds a target macromolecule of natural

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handedness. The method comprises the steps of identifying the macromolecule of non-natural handedness using the methods described herein and modifying or derivatizing the macromolecule of non-natural handedness to produce a derivative thereof. Derivatives obtainable by the method of the present invention described herein are also encompassed by the present invention.

D amino acid peptides and L nucleic acid sequences of the present invention are useful as drugs. For example, D amino acid peptides are not good substrates for naturally-occurring proteases (i.e., resistant to proteolytic degradation) and do not elicit an immune response comparable to that elicited by L amino acid peptides.

#### Brief Description of the Figures

The Figure is a graphic representation of the identification of a D-peptide ligand through mirror-image phage display.

#### Detailed Description of the Invention

The synthetic enantiomer of a structured biopolymer folds into the mirror-image conformation of the natural molecule; likewise, for a bimolecular complex, the two enantiomers of the original partner molecules also form a complex, with mirror-image symmetry to the original. The present invention is based on the discovery that identification of a macromolecule of natural handedness (e.g., L-peptide, D-single-stranded oligonucleotide) that binds the enantiomer of a chiral biological target molecule, provides for a method of identifying a macromolecule of non-natural handedness which binds the natural form of the target. Such enantiomeric macromolecules are assessed to determine their ability to interfere with the biological activity of the target.

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Thus, the present invention provides an approach to the development of new long-acting therapeutic or diagnostic molecules.

The present invention relates to a method of  
5 identifying enantiomeric macromolecules, including  
peptides, polypeptides, proteins, oligonucleotides and  
sugars, as well as macromolecular complexes  
(oligonucleotide-protein complexes, protein-lipid  
complexes), which are not of the naturally-occurring or  
10 wildtype handedness (i.e., chirality) and which are ligands  
for other chiral molecules (peptides, oligonucleotides and  
macromolecular complexes). As defined herein, an  
enantiomer of a macromolecule of natural handedness is the  
equivalent of the macromolecule of natural handedness, but  
15 is of non-natural handedness. In the method of the present  
invention, an enantiomer of a naturally occurring target  
macromolecule is prepared and used to isolate, from a  
collection of naturally occurring macromolecules, a  
naturally occurring ligand that interacts with the  
20 enantiomer. The enantiomeric form of the isolated  
naturally occurring ligand will interact with (e.g., bind)  
the naturally-occurring target macromolecule.

The target macromolecule of natural handedness can be  
any macromolecule having one or more chiral centers. The  
25 target macromolecule (chiral targets) can be intracellular  
or extracellular and includes, but is not limited to,  
nucleic acids (DNA, RNA), proteins or a characteristic  
domain thereof (e.g., peptide), peptides, polypeptides,  
oligonucleotides, carbohydrates, sugars, oligonucleotide-  
30 protein complexes (RNA-protein complex) protein-lipid  
complexes, and phospholipids, all of which contain chiral  
centers. Domains, fragments of regions of these  
macromolecules target macromolecules. The target  
macromolecules can be of mammalian origin (e.g., human) or  
35 non-mammalian origin (e.g., bacterial, fungal, viral, protozoan).

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Examples of target macromolecules which are proteins (polypeptides, peptides) include a intracellular signaling proteins and domains thereof (e.g., the SH3 domains, the SH2 domains, the PH domains) (see Cohen, G.B., et al., *Cell*, 80:237-248 (1995)), chemokines (e.g.,  $\alpha$ -chemokine,  $\beta$ -chemokine) (See Clore, M. G., et al., *FASEB J.*, 9:57-62 (1995)), cytokines (e.g., IL-1, TNF, lymphotoxin- $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-6, M-CSF, TGF $\alpha$ ), enzymes (e.g., protein kinase C, phospholipase C, phospholipase D) (See Divecha, N. and Irvine, R. F., *Cell*, 80:269-278 (1995)), tyrosine kinases (See Marshall, C. J., *Cell*, 80:179-185 (1995)), polypeptide growth factors, and domains thereof, the growth factor receptors and domains or fragments thereof (e.g., growth factors and growth factor receptors in the PDGF family, EGF family, FGF family, IGF family, HFG family, VEGF family, neurotrophin family, Eph family, Class I cytokine family, GH family, IL-3 family, IL-6 family, IL-2 family, Class II cytokine family, TNF family) (See Heldin, C-H., *Cell*, 80:213-223 (1995)), protein kinases, protein phosphatases, cyclins and Cdc proteins (See Hunter, T., *Cell*, 80:225-236 (1995)), transcription factors and domains thereof (e.g., Ets domain, bZIP, rel homology domain, STATs, NF-ATs, TCF, Fos, JAKs) (See Hill, C.S. and Treisman, R., *Cell*, 80:199-211 (1995)) and hormones. Other examples of target macromolecules for use in the present invention include: human CD2, human CD58 (LFA-3), human endothelin, heregulin- $\alpha$ , human interleukin-1 $\beta$  converting enzyme (ICE), human macrophage inflammatory protein 1- $\beta$ , platet factor 4, human melanoma growth stimulating activity, GRO/melanoma growth stimulating activity, MHC molecules, bacterial muramidase, kringle domains (e.g., plasminogen, apolipoproteins), ras, ras-GAP, selections (e.g., E-selectin, L-selectin, P-selectin), Pleckstrin homology domains, stromelysin, thrombin, tissue factor, calmodulin, CD4, collagenase, dihydrofolate reductase, fibronectin, fibronectin type III

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modules, G-protein subunits, vasopressin, Factor IX GLA domain, interleukin-8 (Clore, G.M., et al., *Biochemistry*, 29:1689-1696 (1990)), thrombomodulin EGF-like domain (Lentz, S.R., et al., *J. of Biological Chem.*, 5 288(20):15312-15317 (1993)), GPII<sub>b</sub>-III<sub>a</sub> cytoplasmic domain (Muir, T.W., et al., *Biochemistry*, 33:7701-7708 (1994)), Factor VIIa GLA domain, Factor IX EGF-like domain (Yang, Y., *Protein Science*, 3:1267-1275 (1994)), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) proteins (e.g., HIV protease, 10 integrase, matrix, protein tyrosine phosphatase, reverse transcriptase, nef, tat, rev, envelope, and other HIV proteins, domains, fragments or scaffold mimics thereof), NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal SH3 domain GRB2, (Wittekind, M., et al., *Biochemistry*, 33:13531-13539 (1994)), COOH-terminal SH3 15 domain GRB2 (Kohda, D., et al., *Structure*, 2:1029-1040 (1994)), P120<sup>GAP</sup> SH3 domain (Yang, Y.S., et al., *The EMBO Journal*, 13(6):1270-1279 (1994)), and vascular permeability factor and vascular endothelial growth factor.

Examples of target macromolecules which are 20 oligonucleotides (RNA, DNA) include HIV RRE (rev responsive element), HIV Tar, and BCR-AB1 fusion DNA sequences.

Examples of target macromolecules which are phospholipids include phosphoinositide, phosphoinositidase C, phosphoinositide 3-kinase, phosphatidylinositol, 25 phosphatidylinositol 3-phosphate, phosphatidylinositol (4,5)bisphosphate, phosphatidylinositol (3,4,5)triphosphate, phosphatidylcholine, phosphatidylethanolamine, phosphatidic acid, inositol (1,4) bisphosphate, inositol (1,4,5) triphosphate, 30 diacylglycerol, sphingosine, sphingosine phosphate, sphingosine phosphocholine and ceramide (See Divecha, N. and Irvine, R. F., *Cell*, 80:269-278 (1995)).

In the method of the present invention, an enantiomer of a naturally occurring macromolecule (e.g., the 35 enantiomer of the target macromolecule or the enantiomer of

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the macromolecule of natural handedness identified in the library) is prepared using routine methods. The enantiomer of the naturally occurring macromolecules can be prepared through the use of components of the opposite handedness from that which occurs in nature (e.g., the use of D amino acids for synthesis of mirror image peptides or the use of L-nucleic acids for synthesis of mirror image oligonucleotides). For example, a D-peptide for use in the present invention can be synthesized chemically and purified using affinity chromatography, as described in Example 1. Other methods for preparing the enantiomers of naturally occurring macromolecules are known in the art.

The full enantiomeric form of the target macromolecule or part of the three-dimensional molecular surface of the target macromolecule can be used in the methods of the present invention. For example, the enantiomeric form of a subdomain of the target macromolecule, that by itself attains a conformation that resembles that of the enantiomeric form of this domain in the full macromolecule, can be prepared and used in the methods of the present invention (Schumacher, T., et al., *Science*, 271:1854-1857 (1996)). Alternatively, continuous or discontinuous fragments of the enantiomeric form of the target macromolecule can be prepared on a peptidic or non-peptidic scaffold in which the composite surface of these fragments resembles part of the molecular surface of the full enantiomeric form of the target macromolecule (Tolman, R.L., et al., *Int. J. Pept. Prot. Res.*, 41:455 (1993); Muir, T. W., et al., *Biochem.*, 33:7701 (1994); McConnell, S. J. and Hoess, R.H., *JMB* 250:460-470 (1995); Ku, J., et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA*, 92:6552 (1995); Martin, F., et al., *EMBO J.*:5303-5309 (1994); Venturini, S., et al., *Proteins and Peptides Lett.*, 1:70 (1994); Mutter, M., *Ang. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.*, 24:639 (1985); Cochran, A. G. and Kim, P.S., *Science*, 271:1113-1116 (1996); O'Shea, E.

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K., et al., *Cell*, 68:699 (1992); Oas, T. G., et al., *Nature*, 336:42 (1988).

Identification and production of the macromolecules of non-natural handedness which bind to the target

5 macromolecule can be carried out using any collection of macromolecules of natural handedness. The method described is applicable to all situations in which a biologically encoded library is used to isolate structures that interact with a chiral target (or chiral "bait") (Scott, J.K. and  
10 Smith, G.P., *Science* 249:386 (1990); Devlin, J.J., et al., *Ibid.* 249:404 (1990); Cwirla, S.E., et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 87:6378 (1990); Cull, M.G., et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 89:1865 (1992); Mattheak, L.C., et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA* 91:9022 (1994). As  
15 described in the exemplification, a biologically encoded library, such as a phage display library (mirror image phage display) can be used in the methods of the present invention. Because ribonucleotide and deoxyribonucleotides also contain chiral centers which are recognized by  
20 nucleases, this approach equally applies to both RNA libraries and DNA libraries (Bock, L.C., et al., *Nature*, 355:564 (1992)). Therefore, the types of libraries for which this approach is useful include RNA (e.g, SELEX), DNA (e.g., DNA library) and peptide libraries (e.g., in vitro  
25 transcription/translation based libraries, mono- and poly-valent phage libraries and 'peptide on plasmid' libraries). Use of a DNA library in the method of the present invention is described in Example 5. Examination of the vast amount of structural space represented in these libraries can  
30 yield new ligands for proteins of biological and medical importance. Phages which specifically interact with the D-enantiomer and the L-enantiomer of a naturally-occurring (wildtype) macromolecule have been isolated, as described in the exemplification.

The selection process of the macromolecule of natural handedness in the library bound to the enantiomer of the target macromolecule can be performed in an achiral solvent (e.g., water) or chiral solvent. Furthermore, the interaction between the naturally occurring macromolecule and the enantiomer is unlikely to require any additional chiral cofactors. An example of a selection process that can be used is described in the exemplification. Modification of the selection process can be performed using methods known in the art.

In a particular embodiment, D amino acid peptides which are ligands for a naturally-occurring L amino acid peptide are identified by the claimed method. Such D amino acid peptides can be produced to correspond precisely to the L amino acid peptide (except the constituent amino acids are D, not L enantiomers) or can be modified, such as by a substitution, deletion or modification of one or more constituent amino acids or addition of one or more D amino acid, to produce derivatives of the D amino acid peptides identified.

In another embodiment, L nucleic acid sequences which bind to D nucleic acid sequences or L amino acid peptides are identified by the claimed methods. The L nucleic acid sequences are produced to correspond to the D nucleic acid (except that the constituent nucleotides are L nucleotides) or can be modified, such as by substitution, deletion or modification of one or more of the constituent L nucleotides or addition of one or more L nucleotides, to produce derivatives of the L nucleic acid sequence.

Methods of producing a derivative of a macromolecule of non-natural handedness which binds a target macromolecule of natural handedness using the methods described herein and modifying the macromolecule of non-natural handedness to produce a derivative thereof is also encompassed by the present invention. As used herein, the



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term "derivative" includes macromolecules of non-natural handedness identified, for example, by the methods described herein, which bind to the target macromolecule and have been modified in such a manner that they differ  
5 from the macromolecule of non-natural handedness by the addition, deletion, substitution or alteration of one or more components.

In one embodiment, the derivative is a modified D-peptide. Derivatives of the D-peptides of the present  
10 invention include, for example, D-peptides having modified or altered (e.g., enhanced, decreased) affinity, specificity, membrane permeability, hydrophobicity, lipophilicity, oral bioavailability and/or biological half-life. Strategies for producing derivatives of D-peptides  
15 include, for example, modifying the peptide backbone by N-methylation (Ostresh, J.M., et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA*, 91:11138-11142 (1994); *Drug Discovery Technologies*, C.R. Clark, eds., John Wiley & Sons, 1990) and/or producing peptide mimetics (Cho, C.Y., et al., *Science*, 261:1303  
20 (1993); Moran E.J., et al., *Biopolymers*, 37:213-219 (1995)).

Alternatively, the sidechains of the D-peptides can be modified by introducing non-natural amino acids and amino acid analogues (Combs, A.P., et al., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*,  
25 118: 287-288 (1996); Rivier, J.E., et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Soc., USA*, 93:2031 (1995); Munroe, J.E., et al., *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chem. Lett.*, 5:2897-2902 (1995)). In a particular embodiment, the D-peptide contains non-naturally occurring side chains. Examples of derivatives  
30 of D-amino acid peptides having modified side chains can be described using the following formula:  $\text{NH}_2\text{-CHR-COOH}$  wherein R is a lower alkyl, which is defined herein as an alkyl group of about 1 to about 50 carbon atoms which can be straight or branched and can include one or more double  
35 or triple bonds (e.g., methyl, ethyl). The lower alkyl can

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be a substituted lower alkyl such as a(n) -NH<sub>2</sub>, -OH, aryl (e.g., phenyl), heteroaryl (e.g., imidazole, indole), -COOH (e.g., arginine) group. In addition, the lower alkyl can be an aryl (e.g., phenyl, naphthyl), a substituted aryl (e.g., -OH, halogen), a heteroaryl or a substituted heteroaryl group.

In addition, the D-peptides of the present invention can be modified by generating cyclic or polycyclic derivatives wherein, for example, disulfide bonds are replaced to optimize and restrict the conformation of the D-peptide (Katz, B. A., et al., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 117:8541 (1995); Ladner R. C., *TIBTECH*, 13:426-430 (1995)). For example, the D-amino acid peptide identified as described herein can be made cyclic as in the case with cyclosporin, via a peptide bond.

Further, derivatives of the D-peptides of the present invention can be coupled to or incorporated within carriers to improve membrane permeability and/or bioavailability using, for example, liposomes and/or lipid derivatives (Eichholtz, T., et al., *J. Biol. Chem.*, 268(3):1982-1986 (1993)) and/or peptidic and non-peptidic polymers (*Drug Discovery Technologies*, C.R. Clark, eds., John Wiley & Sons, 1990); Sheldon, K., et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA*, 92:2056 (1995)).

In addition, the D-amino acid peptide identified by the methods described herein can be derivatized by increasing the hydrophobicity of the D-amino acid peptide (e.g., alkylating, for example methylating the D-amino acid peptide backbone), particularly when the target is an intracellular target. A benzene ring can be added to the side chains to increase hydrophobicity. Alternatively, the D-amino acid peptide can be incorporated into a drug delivery system such as a liposome to increase hydrophobicity of the peptide.

Further, the C or N terminus of the D-peptide can be modified with protective groups (See for example, Green, T.H. and Wuts, P.G.M., *Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis*, second edition, John Wiley & Sons, N.Y. (1991)).

5 For example, a lipophilic polymer can be bonded to the N or C terminal (e.g., polyethylene glycol ester at the C terminal). Alternatively, one or more side chains can be bonded to a lipophilic polymer such as a polyalkylene glycol (e.g., polyethylene glycol), or bonded to an ether

10 or ester linkage (e.g., forms an ester with the side chain carboxyl group of aspartic acid or glutamic acid). For example, the D-peptide can be modified by producing a polymer-D-peptide conjugate wherein the polymer is, for example, monomethoxypolyethylene glycol (PEG) and/or

15 polyoxyethylated glycerol (POG) (see *Therapeutic Peptides and Proteins*, Marshak, D. and Liu, D., eds., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (1989)).

In another embodiment, the derivative is an L-nucleic acid. Strategies described herein for modifying D-peptides

20 can also be used to modify RNA and DNA of non-natural handedness identified as described herein in order to optimize their pharmacological properties (e.g., Green, L. S., et al., *Chem. Biol.*, 2:683 (1995); Latham, J. A., et al., *Nucleic Acids Res.*, 22:2817 (1994); Gold, L., et al.,

25 *Ann. Rev. Biochem.*, 64:763 (1995)).

Synthetic and biologically encoded libraries have proven to be extremely useful for the identification of ligands and nucleic acid sequences for a large variety of macromolecules. Synthetic peptide libraries composed of

30 (D)-amino acids have been favored over gene-based techniques such as phage display Scott, J.K. and Smith, G.P., *Science* 249:386 (1990); Devlin, J.J., et al., *Ibid.* 249:404 (1990); Cwirla, S.E., et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 87:6378 (1990), 'peptide on plasmid' Cull, M.G.,

35 et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 89:1865 (1992) and in vitro translation based systems Mattheak, L.C., et al.,

*Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA* 91:9022 (1994) because the resulting peptides are insensitive to proteolytic digestion and fail to induce an efficient immune response.

Furthermore, peptides composed of (D)-amino acids can be  
5 absorbed intestinally (Pappenheimer, J.R., et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 91:1942 (1994)). Cyclosporin A, an 11 residue cyclic peptide composed mainly of N-methylated and (D)-amino acids, is a leading immunosuppressant and is generally given orally (Ptachcins, R.J., et al., *Clin. Pharmacokinetics*, 11:107 (1986)).  
10

Although the screening of a (D)-amino acid library has recently led to the identification of a peptide with analgesic activity (Dooley, C.T., et al., *Science* 266:2019 (1994)), the proportion of sequence space that can be  
15 sampled in synthetic libraries is generally only a fraction of what can be attained through the use of biologically encoded systems. Because of this lower degeneracy, and more importantly, because of the lack of intermediate amplification steps, the use of synthetic libraries has not  
20 always been as successful as the use of phage display libraries in the identification of ligands.

Proteins composed of (D)-amino acids have a chiral specificity for substrates and inhibitors that is the exact opposite of that of the naturally occurring (L)-amino acid  
25 protein (Del Milton, R.C., et al., *Science*, 257:1445 (1992); Petsko, G.A., *Ibid*, 256:1403 (1992); Zawadzke, L.E. and Berg, J.M., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 114:4002 (1992)). Although in certain instances (D)-amino acid ligands can be obtained by either making the (D)-enantiomer of a natural  
30 ligand (Fisher, P.J., et al., *Nature* 368:651 (1994)), or by making the 'reverse' (D)-enantiomer (Jameson, B.A., et al., *Nature* 368:744 (1994); Guptasarma, *TIBTECH*, 14:42-43 (1996)), such methods have no general applicability (Brady, L. and Dodson, G., *Nature* 368:692 (1994); Chorev, M. and  
35 Goodman, M., *TIBTECH*, 14:43-44 (1996)); Guichard, G., et al., *TIBTECH*, 14:44-45 (1996)).

A more general method to obtain (D)-amino acid ligands could be the selection of peptides from a biologically encoded library using the (D)-enantiomer of a protein of interest. Because the (D)- and (L)-protein have a chiral  
5 specificity for substrates and inhibitors that is the exact opposite, the (D)-enantiomeric form of the phage-displayed peptides that interact with the (D)-protein will interact with the protein of the natural handedness.

The validity of this approach has been shown by the  
10 isolation of phage that specifically interact with the D-enantiomer of the SRC homology 3 domain (SH3 domain). As described in Example 1, to examine the possible use of the mirror image relationship between (L)- and (D)-proteins for the identification of (D)-amino acid ligands from phage  
15 libraries, a (D)-amino acid version of the SH3 domain of the c-Src tyrosine kinase was synthesized. SH3 domains are 55-70 amino acid protein domains that are found in a variety of intracellular effector molecules (reviewed in Schlessinger, J., *Curr. Opin. Genet. Dev.*, 4:25 (1994)).  
20 Because c-SRC activity is essential for osteoclast-mediated bone resorption, interference with SRC function may be of value in the treatment of osteoporosis (Soriano, P. et al., *Cell*, 64:693 (1992); Lowe, C., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci USA*, 90:4485 (1993); Seymour, J.F., *Science and Medicine*, 2:48  
25 (1995)). SH3 domains interact with sequence elements in their cellular targets that form type II poly-proline helices of 8 to 10 residues (Rickles, R.J., et al., *EMBO J.*, 13:5598 (1994); Sparks, A.B., *J. Biol. Chem.*, 269:23853 (1994); Cheadle, C., et al., *Ibid*, 269:24034 (1994); Yu,  
30 H., et al., *Cell*, 76:933 (1994); Feng, S., et al., *Science* 266:1241 (1994); Lim, W.A., et al., *Nature*, 372:375 (1994). Mediating protein interactions in intracellular cell signalling proteins, and interference with the signalling of SH3 domain containing proteins would be desirable.  
35 Although ligands or substrates for a variety of SH3 domains have been isolated from phage display libraries (Rickles,

R.J., et al., *EMBO J.*, 13:5598 (1994); Sparks, A.B., *J. Biol. Chem.*, 269:23853 (1994); Cheadle, C., et al., *Ibid*, 39:24034 (1994)), the identification of such sequences from a synthetic (L)-amino acid peptide library was possible only with prior knowledge of the sequences of the preferred ligands (Yu, H., et al., *Cell*, 76:933 (1994)). Thus, the identification of (D)-amino acid ligands for SH3 domains from synthetic libraries is unlikely to be successful, in the absence of prior sequence or structure information about potential ligands.

The L- and D-enantiomers of the chicken c-SRC domain were prepared by bacterial expression and chemical synthesis, respectively. The biotinylated, synthetic, 60-amino acid D-SH3 domain was refolded and purified by affinity chromatography, with a D-amino acid version of a known peptide ligand for the SH3 domain (Yu, H., et al., *Cell*, 76:933 (1994)). As expected, bacterially expressed L-SH3 was retained on an affinity column with the L-enantiomer of this peptide, but not with the D-enantiomer, which indicates that the interaction of the SH3 domain with its substrates is stereospecific.

A phage library was constructed in which random, 10-residue peptide sequences were expressed at the NH<sub>2</sub>-terminus of the pIII protein of the bacteriophage fd (Scott, J.K. and Smith, G.P., *Science*, 249:386 (1990)). Because many natural bioactive peptides, such as the immunosuppressant cyclosporin and the tumor promoter microcystin, are cyclic, the library was designed to include a large number of sequences that have a propensity for disulfide bond formation (Smith, G.P. and Scott, J.K., *Methods Enzymol.*, 217:228 (1993)). When the L-SH3 domain was used to screen this phage display library for interacting peptide sequences, disulfide-free polyproline-type sequences that have been identified by others were isolated (Yu, H., et al., *Cell*, 76:933 (1994); Rickles, R.J. et al., *EMBO J.*, 13:5598 (1994); Sparks, A.B., et al.,

*J. Biol. Chem.*, 269:23853 (1994); Cheadle, C., et al., *ibid.*, p. 24034)).

When the same phage display was screened with the D-SH3 domain, a series of peptide sequences that showed no obvious sequence similarity to the L-SH3-binding sequences was isolated and grouped in three classes (Table 1). These peptides all interact with the substrate binding site of the SH3 domain as they were eluted with the (D)-YGGRELPLPRF peptide (SEQ ID NO: 2). These phage-displayed peptides that bind to the D-SH3 domain are characterized by a combination of conserved leucine and glycine residues and a conserved arginine or lysine residue. In contrast to the L-peptide ligands for the L-SH3 domain (Yu, H., et al., *Cell*, 76:933 (1994); Rickles, R.J. et al., *EMBO J.*, 13:5598 (1994; Sparks, A.B., et al., *J. Biol. Chem.*, 269:23853 (1994); Cheadle, C., et al., *ibid.*, p. 24034)), the positively charged residues in the ligands for the D-SH3 domain are located in the middle of a stretch of conserved residues, which suggests that the mode of ligand binding is different in the two forms. Furthermore, all ligands for the D-SH3 domain contain a pair of cysteine residues, a property that is not observed for the L-peptides that interact with the L-SH3 domain (Yu, H., et al., *Cell*, 76:933 (1994); Rickles, R.J. et al., *EMBO J.*, 13:5598 (1994; Sparks, A.B., et al., *J. Biol. Chem.*, 269:23853 (1994); Cheadle, C., et al., *ibid.*, p. 24034)). The disulfide bond may increase the affinity of these peptides for the D-SH3 domain by reducing the number of possible conformers.

Confirmation that the D-amino acid enantiomers of the peptides expressed by these phage particles interact with the all-L-amino acid SH3 domain is carried out using standard binding and detection methods. As described in Example 2, a D-peptide denoted Pep-D1, which is the mirror image of one of the phage-displayed peptides that bind to the D-SH3 domain, was synthesized and its interaction with

the bacterially expressed L-SH3 domain examined. An indirect binding assay was used to verify that the (D)-SH3 domain binds to the substrate binding site of the (L)-SH3 domain.

5 As described in Example 3, heteronuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) experiments were performed on the  $^{15}\text{N}$ -labeled SH3 domain in the absence and presence of Pep-D1 to determine the binding site of this D-peptide in the SH3 domain. Residues in the SH3 domain that interact with Pep-  
10 D1 were identified through changes in amide  $^1\text{H}$  or  $^{15}\text{N}$  chemical shifts upon the addition of the D-peptide ligand.

In all cases the ligands that are isolated through this procedure are significantly less or not susceptible to the mechanisms that impair the activity of their biological  
15 counterparts. For example, the ligands isolated through the method described herein are significantly less or not susceptible to RNase and DNase activity for nucleotide-based ligands (Ashley, G.W., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 114:9731 (1992); Urata, H., et al., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 113:8174  
20 (1991) and proteolysis and activation of an immune response for peptide-based ligands (Gill, T.J., et al., *Nature* 197:746 (1963); Mauer, P.H., *J. Exp. Med.*, 121:339 (1965); Borek, F., et al., *Biochem. J.*, 96:577 (1965); Janeway, C.A. and Sela, M., *Immunology* 13:29 (1967); Ditzis, H.M.,  
25 et al., *Proteins*, 16:306 (1993)).

The approach described here to isolate ligands that are not of the natural handedness is unique for the isolation of oligonucleotide-based ligands, as all the approaches used thus far lead only to the isolation of  
30 ligands of the natural handedness. Consequently, such 'conventional' ligands are susceptible to degradation by natural occurring enzymes. In contrast, the synthesis and screening of synthetic peptide libraries composed of D-amino acids is technically feasible. However, both because  
35 of the high number of compounds that can be screened in biologically encoded library systems (several orders of



magnitude higher than can be achieved for synthetic peptide libraries) and the beneficial effects of the intermediate amplification steps used, such systems when combined with the technology described here yield superior results.

5        Specifically, synthetic peptide based strategies have an upper limit in degeneracy that is determined either by peptide solubility limits and detection limits for the assay used (for synthetic combinatorial libraries and other solution-based peptide libraries), or for solid phase based  
10        libraries, by volume considerations. Secondly, the intermediate amplification steps that are used in biologically encoded library systems allow the identification of ligands in situations where background binding is high (in systems that do not employ  
15        amplification steps a specific ligand will only be identified if it constitutes an easily detectable part of the total pool of recovered molecules after a single round of screening). Thirdly, phage display and other biologically encoded library systems allow for the  
20        maturation of affinities through mutation of the encoding DNA through processes such as error-prone PCR. Finally, phage libraries can accommodate inserts of significant length as compared to synthetic peptide based libraries. This not only allows the possible isolation of ligands of a  
25        different size class, but significantly increases the complexity of short ligands that are contained (as sliding windows) within these inserts.

As described in Example 4, identification of D-amino acid peptide ligands which interact with a specific target  
30        as described herein can be used to provide guidelines for the design of biased (D)-amino acid peptide and peptide-based libraries. The libraries can subsequently be used to isolate novel ligands.

The invention is further illustrated in the following  
35        examples, which are not intended to be limiting in any way.

Example 1 Identification of Phage Which Specifically  
Interact With D-Amino Acid Peptides

Preparation of the L-SH3 domain

The residue numbering system is that of the full-length chicken c-SRC protein. Residues 81 to 140 of chicken c-SRC were cloned in other Hind III-Bam HI sites of the plasmid pMMHb (Staley, J.P. and Kim, P.S., *Protein Science*, 3:1822 (1994)). In this plasmid, proteins are expressed as a fusion with a modified form of the TrpLE leader sequence in which the methionine residues have been replaced with leucine and the cysteine residues have been replaced with alanine (Staley, J.P. and Kim, P.S., *Protein Science*, 3:1822 (1994)), and a stretch of nine histidine residues has been inserted into the COOH terminal region of the leader sequence. Expression of the fusion protein encoded by the plasmid pMMHb-SRC SH3 was induced at an absorbance of 0.6 at 600 nm by the addition of 0.4 mM isopropyl- $\beta$ -D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) (Research Organics) to *Escherichia coli* BL21-(DE3) pLys S cells (Stratagene). After induction for 2 hours, cells were centrifuged and inclusion bodies were isolated. Recombinant protein was purified by resuspension of inclusion bodies in 6 M guanidine-HCl and, 0.2 M tris, pH 8.7 (buffer A) and chromatography on a  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  column ( $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ -NTA-agarose; Qiagen). After elution, dialysis against water, and lyophilization, the fusion protein was dissolved in 70% formic acid and cleaved with CNBr (Stanley, J.P. and Kim P.S., *Protein Science*, 3:1822 (1994)). Dialyzed and lyophilized material was subsequently taken up in buffer A, and purified by chromatography on a  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  column (after cleavage, the isolated SH3 domain flows through the column, whereas uncleaved fusion protein and the cleaved TrpLE leader sequence are retained). After dialysis (against PBS buffers of decreasing ionic strength, and finally against water) and lyophilization, the purity and identity of the SH3 domain were confirmed by high-performance liquid

chromatography (HPLC) analysis at neutral pH and by laser desorption mass spectrometry (expected, 6686 daltons; observed, 6683 daltons).

Synthesis of the all D-Src SH3 domain

5       The all D amino acid SH3 domain, sequence  
GGVTTFVALYDYESRTETDLSFKKGERLQIVNTEGDWWLAHSLTTGQTGYIPSNYVAP  
S-COOH-terminus (SEQ ID No: 1), residues 81-140 of chicken  
c-SRC, was synthesized on HMP resin (ABI/Perkin Elmer) with  
an ABI 431A peptide synthesizer and ABI fastmoc cycles  
10 (Fmoc chemistry with HBTU activation and capping with  
acetic anhydride). Protected D-amino acids were obtained  
from Bachem California, Bachem Bioscience, Advanced  
Chemtech, and Novabiochem. For D-Ile and D-Thr, the side  
chain enantiomers were used, in which the chirality of the  
15 side chain is also inverted relative to naturally occurring  
L-Thr and L-Ile. After completion of the synthesis, the  
NH<sub>2</sub>-terminus of the peptide was modified with NHS-LC-biotin  
II (Pierce). After cleavage, the peptide was lyophilized,  
dissolved in 6 M guanidine HCl, pH 6.0, and dialyzed  
20 against 100 mM NaHPO<sub>4</sub> and 100 mM NaCl, pH 6.0, with the use  
of dialysis tubing with a molecular cutoff of 3,500 daltons  
(D) (Spectra/Por). After dialysis the material was spun  
briefly to remove insoluble debris, and the supernatant was  
subsequently dialyzed against 5% acetic acid and  
25 lyophilized. The peptide was dissolved at a concentration  
of 3.3 mg/ml in Tris-buffered saline (50 mM Tris, pH 7.5,  
and 150 mM NaCl) containing 1 mM biotin. The full  
biotinylated 60 amino acid (D)-SH3 domain length product  
was refolded and purified by affinity chromatography on an  
30 all-(D) version of a known substrate for the Src SH3 domain  
(D)-YGGRELPPPLPRF (SEQ ID NO:2), Yu, H., et al., Cell,  
76:933 (1994)), that was biotinylated and immobilized on a  
streptavidin-agarose column (Pierce). This peptide is a  
derivative of an all (L)-peptide shown to bind to the all  
35 (L)-SH3 domain (Yu, H., et al., Cell, 76:933-945 (1994)),

with an NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal YGG added to facilitate concentration determination (H. Edelhoch, *Biochemistry*, 6:1948 (1967)). The L-peptide with the same NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal YGG served as a control ligand in the experiments. As expected,

5 bacterially expressed (L)-SH3 (residues 81-140 of chicken c-Src were expressed) can be retained on the (L)-enantiomer but not on the (D)-enantiomer of this peptide, indicating that the interaction of the SH3 domain with its substrates is stereospecific.

10 Chromatography fractions were analyzed by laser desorption mass spectrometry on a Voyager mass spectrometer (Perceptive Biosystems). Fractions containing material of the expected mass (expected, 7027 daltons; observed 7027 daltons to 7035 daltons) were pooled and dialyzed against

15 water for 72 hrs, lyophilized and taken up in water at a concentration of 107 µg/ml.

#### Production of phage library

The phage library was designed to provide expression of random peptides as NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal fusions with filamentous

20 phage pIII protein. Typically, 3-5 copies were present per phage particle, to permit isolation of low/intermediate affinity ligands.

DNA encoding a 10-residue random insert with flanking serine or cysteine residues (S/C-X<sub>10</sub>-S/C) (SEQ ID NO:20)

25 was prepared by PCR of an 85 residue oligonucleotide (Smith, G., "Cloning in Fuse vectors", Division of Biological Sciences, University of Missouri (Edition of February 10, 1992)) using biotinylated primers as described (Smith, G.P. and Scott, J.K., *Methods Enzymol.*, 217:228

30 (1993)).

The insert design was: NH<sub>2</sub>-A-D-G-A-S/C-X<sub>10</sub>-S/C-G-A-G-A-PIII (SEQ ID NO:3).

85 Residue Oligonucleotide:

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5'-C.TAT.TCT.CAC.TCG.GCC.GAC.GGG.GCT.TSC.(NNS)<sub>10</sub>.TSC.GCC.GC  
T.GGG.GCC.GAA.ACT.GTT.GAA-3' ((SEQ ID NO: 4)

In which S = C/G

N = A/T/C/G

5 (equimolar mixtures)

After purification of the PCR product and digestion with  
Bgl I, the end pieces were removed through the use of  
streptavidin-coated agarose beads (Pierce). The PCR  
product was subsequently ethanol precipitated and analyzed  
10 by electrophoresis on polyacrylamide gel.

The library was made by ligation of a random PCR  
product into Sfi I-cut Fuse 5 vector. After ligation the  
reaction mixture was extracted with phenol and chloroform,  
ethanol-precipitated and taken up in 10 mM Tris/1mM EDTA  
15 (pH 8.0). The ligation product was subsequently  
transferred into electrocompetent MC1061 cells (Biorad)  
using a Bio-Rad E. coli pulser and 0.1 cm cuvettes. After  
non-restrictive growth for 1 hr aliquots of transformed  
cells were plated on tetracycline-containing plates to  
20 determine the efficiency of transformation, yielding an  
initial library of  $3.6 \times 10^8$  transformants. The  
transformation mixture was subsequently diluted to a volume  
of 400 ml LB and 20  $\mu$ g/ml tetracycline, and grown for an  
additional 14 hrs. A phage stock was prepared by two  
25 successive polyethylene glycol (PEG) precipitations of the  
culture supernatant as described. The phage stock was  
finally resuspended in tris buffered saline/ $\text{NaN}_3$  and  
titered by infection of K91-kan cells (A21), yielding a  
total of  $2.8 \times 10^{11}$  transforming units. The randomness of  
30 the inserts was confirmed by sequencing of individual  
clones.  $4 \times 10^{10}$  transforming units were subsequently used  
to infect K91-kan cells to generate an amplified library.  
After 18 hrs phage were purified by three repetitive PEG  
precipitations yielding 10 ml of the amplified phage  
35 library ( $1.2 \times 10^{12}$  transforming units/ml) in TBS/ $\text{NaN}_3$ . The

quality of the library was confirmed by selection of phage that expressed inserts that interact with 1) the lectin concanavalin A (Con A) (Oldenburg, K.R. et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, 89:5393 (1992); Scott, J.K. et al., *ibid*, p. 5398); 2) two mouse monoclonal antibodies raised against the mouse MHC class I heavy chain; and 3) a bacterially expressed form of the Src SH3 domain, all screens giving the expected results.

#### Con A screen

10 After 3 rounds

AS W R Y N Y A F M R Y SA (SEQ ID No: 5)  
(1)

AS M W M Y P Y P W G V SA (SEQ ID No: 6)  
(9)

15 Screening of the phage library

The phage display was screened with the D-SH3 domain and a series of peptide sequences, which showed no obvious sequence similarity to the L-SH3-binding sequences, were isolated (see Table 1).

20 Single wells of a flatbottom 96 well high binding E.I.A./R.I.A. plate (Costar) were coated overnight with 10  $\mu$ g streptavidin (Pierce) in 100  $\mu$ l 100 mM NaHCO<sub>3</sub> at 4°C. After a single wash with water, wells were incubated with 100  $\mu$ l (10.7  $\mu$ g) of biotinylated (D)-SH3 for 1 hr. at 20°C,  
25 blocked for 2 hrs with 30 mg/ml dialyzed bovine serum albumin (BSA) in 100 mM NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, and again incubated with 100  $\mu$ l (10.7  $\mu$ g) of biotinylated (D)-SH3 for 1 hr. Unliganded streptavidin was blocked for 30 minutes by the addition of 8  $\mu$ l 5 mM biotin in tris-buffered saline (TBS).  
30 Wells were subsequently washed 5 times with phosphate buffered saline (PBS) and 0.1% Tween-20, and incubated overnight with 50  $\mu$ l of the phage stock in TBS/NaN<sub>3</sub> and 50  $\mu$ l of TBS, 0.1% Tween-20, 1 mg/ml BSA and 0.05% NaN<sub>3</sub>. Wells were subsequently washed by six additions of 200  $\mu$ l

of TBS, 0.1% Tween-20 and 1 mg/ml BSA with increasing incubation times in the later rounds of the selection procedure. (D)-SH3 bound phage particles were subsequently eluted by the addition of 100  $\mu$ l D-SH3 ligand peptide (715  $\mu$ M), sequence D-YGGRELPPLPRF-amide (SEQ ID No: 2), for 15 minutes at 4°C, at a final concentration of 700 to 1000  $\mu$ M peptide. Acid elution of phages in this screen gives no detectable preferential binding to D-SH3 coated wells after four rounds of selection. The eluate was subsequently used to infect K91-kan cells. Briefly 100  $\mu$ l eluate was mixed with 100  $\mu$ l K91 Terrific Broth cells (prepared as described) and incubated for 20 minutes at room temperature. The mixture was subsequently transferred into an Erlenmeyer flask containing 20 ml LB/0.2  $\mu$ g/ml tetracycline. After 1 hr incubation while shaking at 37°C, tetracycline was added to a final concentration of 20  $\mu$ g/ml, appropriate dilutions were plated on tetracycline-containing plates (20  $\mu$ g/ml) to determine the titer of the eluate and the culture was incubated at 37°C for 12-16 hrs. Phage were isolated from the supernatant by two PEG precipitations and the resulting phage stock was used for titering to determine the yield, and for the subsequent round of selection. In the fourth round of selection, phage were incubated in wells coated with or without the D-SH3 domain to determine the specificity of the capture. The washing conditions and yields of the different rounds of selection were as follows:

	<u>Round</u>	<u>Washing Conditions</u>	<u>Yield</u>	
			<u>D-SH3 coated</u>	<u>Control</u>
30	1	6x, no incubation	1:3x10 <sup>5</sup>	n.a.
	2	6x3 minutes at 4°C	1:1x10 <sup>6</sup>	n.a.
	3	6x5 minutes at 4°C	1:2x10 <sup>4</sup>	n.a.
	4	6x10 minutes at 4°C	1:2x10 <sup>4</sup>	1:4x10 <sup>5</sup>

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From these data it is apparent that 1) in subsequent rounds phage that bind more tightly are selected since the yield increases although the washing conditions get significantly harsher and 2) this binding is specific for the D-SH3 domain since elution is achieved by incubation with a substrate for this domain, and more importantly, since the recovery of phage particles in round 4 is 20-fold higher in the presence of the D-SH3 domain than in the absence (recovery is higher from the D-SH3 domain-coated plates).

10 A larger number of phage particles was retained in the presence of the D-SH3 domain than in its absence.

When the (D)-SH3 domain was used to screen this library a series of peptides were isolated that were grouped in three classes. These peptides all interact with the substrate binding site of the SH3 domain as they were eluted with the (D)-YGGRELPLPRF peptide (SEQ ID NO:2). Surprisingly, all peptides contained a pair of cysteine residues, a property that is not observed for the polyproline peptides that interact with the (L)-SH3 domain.

20 The disulfide bond may increase the affinity of these peptides for the (D)-SH3 domain by reducing the total number of possible conformers. Peptides in groups I and III contained at least a single arginine residue that may form a salt bridge with aspartic acid<sup>99</sup> in the SH3 domain and which interacts with arginine residues in Src-binding poly proline peptides (Feng, S., et al., *Science* 266:1241 (1994)).

25



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Table 1. Sequences of phage-displayed peptides that interact with the (D)-Src SH3 domain.

Sequence	Number of Isolates		Type
	low stringency	high stringency	
Group I			
CKRFVWRGQALC (SEQ ID No: 13)	10	14	
CSRASWRGLLFC (SEQ ID No: 14)		1	
Group II			
CWYLGYPGQEC (SEQ ID No: 15)	12		
Group III			
CLSGRLRLGLVPC (SEQ ID No: 16)	2		fdSRC-1
CLMGLRLRLGLLPC (SEQ ID No: 17)	4		fdSRC-1
CAYGFKLGLIKC (SEQ ID No: 18)	1*		fdSRC-3

\* This phage clone has an alanine to arginine substitution directly amino terminal to the insert region.

Conserved residues between different members of the groups I and III are indicated in bold, semiconserved residues are underlined. Note that for all members of group I and III the positioning of the conserved residues relative to the cysteine residues is preserved. Individual phage clones representing inserts of all 3 groups were analyzed after four to five rounds of selection for binding to the (D)-Src SH3 domain. All clones bind at least 150 fold better to wells coated with 0.5  $\mu$ g streptavidin and 1.3  $\mu$ g of the Src SH3 domain than to control wells. In both the low stringency and the high stringency screen, individual colonies were analyzed after 4 rounds of

selection. Both the high and low stringency screen were based on the same initial round of selection. Differences between the high stringency and low stringency screen include a 2 fold decrease in the concentration of (D)-Src SH3 used to coat the wells, a decrease in the incubation time of the phage on the plate (from 16 hrs. to 1 hr.), and an increase in the incubation time between the six washes of the plate (low stringency screen: round 2,3 and 4,3', 5' and 10' resp.; high stringency screen: rounds 2 to 4 all 10' incubations).

Phage display with the L-SH3 domain was also assessed. When the (L)-SH3 domain is used to screen a phage library (A12) for interacting sequences the poly-proline sequences that have been observed by others Rickles, R.J., et al., *EMBO J.*, 13:5598 (1994); Sparks, A.B., *J. Biol. Chem.*, 39:23853 (1994); Cheadle, C., et al., *Ibid*, 39:24034 (1994) are isolated. The results are as follows and showed that the display worked:

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Bait

After 4 rounds

	L	<u>P</u>	E	V	<u>P</u>	P	L	V	A	P	(SEQ ID No: 7)
	L	A	R	S	R	L	<u>P</u>	A	I	<u>P</u>	(SEQ ID NO: 8)
5	R	M	S	<u>P</u>	L	V	<u>P</u>	L	R	N	(SEQ ID No: 9)

- GCN4 leucine zipper: short (33 residues), but low probability
- c-Src SH-3 domain: 60 residues, bind peptides (type II polyPro)
- 10 GCN4 leucine zipper: synthesis straightforward, CD as expected after 5 rounds no difference in recovery +/- zipper  
Test 59 individual clones, no difference +/- zipper
- 15 Src SH3 domain: Src (L-) SH3 binds to substrate in a stereo-specific manner  
Src (L-) SH3 selects poly-Pro sequences from library:

Sequence analysis of a small number of isolates after

20 four rounds of selection with the L-SH3 domain revealed the following two peptide sequences: CLARSRLPAIPS (SEQ ID NO: 10) (nine isolates) and SRMSPLVPLRNS (SEQ ID NO: 21) (one isolate). The sequences of these peptides have features consistent with those described for class I and

25 class II ligands of the SH3 domain ((Yu, H., et al., *Cell*, 76:933 (1994); Rickles, R.J. et al., *EMBO J.*, 13:5598 (1994; Sparks, A.B., et al., *J. Biol. Chem.*, 269:23853 (1994); Cheadle, C., et al., *ibid.*, p. 24034)).

Analysis of single phage clones

To analyze the specificity of this interaction more rigorously, 6 individual colonies obtained after 4 rounds of selection were grown up in LB/20 $\mu$ g/ml tetracycline.

- 5 Phage particles were isolated from 1.3 ml supernatant by PEG precipitation and were resuspended in 500 5 $\mu$ l TBS giving an estimated concentration of  $6.5 \times 10^{10}$  transforming units/ml. 0.2  $\mu$ l aliquots (approximately  $1.3 \times 10^7$  TU) were incubated in 50  $\mu$ l TBS/0.1% Tween 20/1 mg/ml BSA in wells
- 10 that had been coated as described above but with 0.5 rather than 10  $\mu$ g streptavidin and with or without 1.3  $\mu$ g D-SH3. After the incubation with phage non-bound phage were removed by 6(3 minute), washes with 150  $\mu$ l TBS/0.1% Tween20/1 mg/ml BSA. Bound phage particles were
- 15 subsequently eluted with 40  $\mu$ l glycinecine HCl pH2.2/1 mg/ml BSA for 10 minutes at 4°C. The eluate was subsequently brought to neutral pH and titered on K91 kan cells as described above.

	<u>Clone</u>	<u>Recover (arbitrary units)*</u>		<u>Ratio D-SH3/control</u>
		<u>D-SH3 coated</u>	<u>control</u>	
20				
	1	1664	5	333
	2	1840	1	1840
	3	1316	0	>1316
	4	2348	0	>2348
25	5	1472	3	491
	6	1348	9	150

\* Calculated from the number of colonies/plate at a given dilution.

- Individual clones were analyzed after four and five rounds of selection. In subsequent rounds, the incubation
- 30 time between washes was increased (times of 0, 3, 5, 10 and 10 min, respectively, for rounds 1 through 5). After four rounds of selection, 29 clones were sequenced, of which only 7 are within Group III of Table 1. To ensure that the selected phages were not binding to streptavidin or to a

composite surface formed by streptavidin formed by the streptavidin-D-SH3 complex, a fifth selection round was performed with neutravidin (Pierce) as a matrix. Sequence analysis of clones after this fifth round of selection revealed only sequences of the fdSRC-2-type. Preliminary experiments suggest that the affinity of the corresponding peptide, Pep-D2, is similar to that of Pep-D1. Pep-D1 corresponds to the fdSRC-1 insert CLSGLRLGLVPC (SEQ ID No: 16) (Table 1), with the COOH-terminal alanine that is present in all flanking sequences (see Example 2). The other phage isolates obtained after four rounds of selection expressed one of the following two sequences: CKRFVWRGQALC (SEQ ID No: 13) (10 isolates) and CWYLGYPGQEC (SEQ ID No: 15) (12 isolates). The first of these sequences resembles the background sequences that are isolated with a variety of biotinylated ligates (Smith, G. P. and Scott, J.K., *Methods in Enzymol.*, 217:228 (1993)) and is also similar to a sequence that was isolated previously with a monoclonal antibody against myohemerythrin, although it does not conform to the recognition motif for this antibody (Smith, G. P. and Scott, J.K., *Science*, 249:386 (1990)). This sequence is therefore likely to bind to some component in the system other than the SH3 domain. Indeed, a D-amino acid version of this sequence fails to bind to the L-SH3 domain, as judged by ELISA and NMR studies. The other sequence that was picked up after four rounds of selection shows limited similarity to the first sequence and has not been examined further.

Example 2 An All D Amino Acid Src SH3 Domain Binds to the L Src SH3 Domain

The (D)-amino acid peptide denoted Pep-D1, (D)-RCLSGLRLGLVPCA (SEQ ID NO:11, a representative sequence of group III sequences), which is the mirror image of one of the phage-displayed peptides that binds to the D-Src SH3

domain, was synthesized and its interaction with the bacterially expressed (L)-SH3 domain was examined. Pep-D1 corresponds to the fdSRC-1 insert CLSGLRLGLVPC (SEQ ID No: 16) (Table 1), with the COOH-terminal alanine that is present in all flanking sequences. The arginine immediately preceding the first cysteine residue was observed in the fdSRC-3 sequence (Table 1). The presence of arginine and lysine residues close to the NH<sub>2</sub>-terminus of secretory and transmembrane proteins negatively affects protein translocation (Boyd, D. and Beckwith, J., *Cell*, 62:1031 (1990)). In addition, a selection against arginine residues in the NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal part of phage pIII fusions has been observed (Cunningham, B.C. et al., *EMBO J.*, 13:2508 (1994)). The alanine to arginine mutation in this clone may thus increase the affinity of the insert sequence for the D-SH3 domain, and could improve the solubility of the peptide; it was therefore included in the synthetic peptide. For affinity measures, an NH<sub>2</sub> terminal D-tyrosine was added to the peptide for concentration determination (Edelhoch, H., *Biochemistry*, 6:1948 (1967)). The peptides with and without the NH<sub>2</sub> terminal tyrosine were air-oxidized in 100 mM tris, pH 8.5, for 48 hours at a concentration of 1 mg/ml. Oxidized peptide was purified by reverse-phase HPLC with a C<sub>18</sub> column and a water-acetonitrile gradient in 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid. The identify of the products was confirmed by laser desorption mass spectrometry.

The reduced form of Pep-D1 shows no detectable binding activity in this assay ( $K_d \gg 800 \mu\text{M}$ ), which indicates that the formation of the disulfide is required for efficient binding. The affinity of Pep-D1 for the L-SH3 domain was determined by a competitive enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA). Single wells of a 96-well plate were coated with 5  $\mu\text{g}$  of the L-SH3 domain (Scott, J.K. and Smith, G.P., *Science*, 249:386 (1990); Smith, G.P. and Scott, J.K., *Methods in Enzymol.*, 217:228 (1993)). Wells were blocked

with BSA, and phages expressing the L-SH3-binding insert CLARSRLPAIPS (SEQ ID NO: 10) were allowed to bind in 10 mM NaHPO<sub>4</sub>, pH 7.2, 15 mM NaCl, 1 mg/ml of BSA, 0.05% NaN<sub>3</sub>, and 0.1% Tween 20, in the presence of increasing amounts of competitor peptide. Phage binding was quantified with a rabbit M13 antibody (Stratagene) and alkaline phosphatase-labeled goat antibody to rabbit (Pierce), with a fresh solution of p-nitrophenol phosphate as substrate. Absorbance at 410 nm was determined with a Dynatech micotiter plate reader. Titration curves (means of triplicates) were obtained for the L-peptide ligand YGGRELPPPLPRF amide (SEQ ID NO: 2) and the D-peptide ligand Pep-D1 YRCLSGRLRLGLVPCA (SEQ ID NO: 22) in the presence and absence of 25 mM dithiothreitol. Relative values for K<sub>d</sub> were obtained as described (Minor, D.L., Jr. and Kim, P.S., *Nature*, 367:660 (1994)). The K<sub>d</sub> of the L-peptide YGGRELPPPLPRF-amide (SEQ ID NO: 2) was determined to be 6.0 μM by direct tryptophan fluorescence spectroscopy. A solution of the peptide was titrated into 1 μM SH3 solution in 15 mM NaCl and 10 mM NaHPO<sub>4</sub>, pH 7.2. Tryptophan fluorescence was induced by excitation at 295 nm (5 nm slit width), and emission was measured at 339 nm (10 nm slit width), with a Hitachi F-4500 fluorescence spectrometer. The dissociation constant was determined by Scatchard analysis.

Although the syntheses of the (D)-enantiomeric form of both rubredoxin (45 amino acids) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) protease (99 amino acids) have been described Del Milton, R.C., et al., *Science*, 256:1445 (1992); Petsko, G.A., Ibid, 256:1403 (1992); Zawadzke, L.E. and Berg, J.M., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 114:4002 (1992); Zawadzke, L.E. and Berg, J.M., *Proteins*, 16:301 (1993)), for most proteins the synthesis of the full (D)-enantiomeric form will not be feasible because of size limitations on the likelihood of successful chemical synthesis. However, both intracellular and extracellular proteins are often composed of autonomous

domains of 100 amino acids or less (reviewed in Bork, P. and Bairoch, A., *Trends Biochem. Sci.*, 20, poster (1995) for extracellular proteins; Doolittle, R.F., and Bork, P., *Sci. Am.*, 269:50 (1993); Efimov, A.V., *FEBS Lett.*, 355:213  
5 (1994); Cohen, G.B., et al., *Cell*, 80:237 (1995)). This size range is within reach of current solid-phase peptide synthesis technology, and recent advances in chemical ligation strategies for unprotected protein fragments hold promise for the synthesis of even larger protein domains.  
10 Thus, the isolation of ligands for proteins of interest (e.g., multidomain proteins) may be achieved through the synthesis and screening of one of its constituent domains, as described here for the SH3 domain.

Example 3 Determination of the Binding Site of the D-  
15 Peptide in the SH3 Domain

Heteronuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) experiments were performed on the  $^{15}\text{N}$ -labeled SH3 domain in the absence and presence of Pep-D1 to determine the binding site of this D-peptide in the SH3 domain. Residues in the SH3  
20 domain that interact with Pep-D1 were identified through changes in amide  $^1\text{H}$  or  $^{15}\text{N}$  chemical shifts upon the addition of the D-peptide ligand.

The ligand-binding site of the SH3 domain for its natural, L-amino acid ligands consists of three pockets  
25 that together form a relatively shallow groove on one side of the molecule (Feng, S., et al., *Science*, 266:1241 (1994); Yu, H., et al., *Science*, 258:1665 (1992)). Pocket A, which is formed by the side chains of aspartic acid<sup>99</sup> and tryptophan<sup>118</sup>, accommodates the conserved arginine  
30 residue, whereas pockets B and C form a hydrophobic surface that accommodates the aliphatic and proline residues in SH3 ligands (Feng, S. et al., *Science*, 266:1241 (1994); Yu, H. et al., *Science*, 258:1665 (1992)).

Uniformly ( $\geq 95\%$ )  $^{15}\text{N}$ -labeled SH3 domains were obtained  
35 by growing *E. coli* harboring the plasmid pMMHb-SRC SH3 in



M9 medium supplemented with  $(^{15}\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  (99.7%  $^{15}\text{N}$ ; Isotec, Miamisburg, Ohio). Upon reaching an absorbance of 0.6 at 600 nm, cells were induced for 4 hours with 0.4 mM IPTG. The protein was purified as described for the unlabeled material. Spectra were collected on a Bruker AMX 500 MHz NMR spectrometer. Resonance assignments were made by standard methods (Wüthrich, K., *NMR of Proteins and Nucleic Acids* (Wiley, New York, 1986); McIntosh, L.P. et al., *Biochemistry*, 29:6341 (1990)) and were consistent with the assignments for SH3 (Yu, H. et al., *FEBS LETT.*, 324:87 (1993)). The peptide Pep-D1 was added to solution containing the  $^{15}\text{N}$ -labeled SH3 domain to a ratio of 1.5:1 (peptide:protein) in 10 mM phosphate, pH 6.0, at 298 K; heteronuclear single quantum coherence (HSQC) spectra (Bodenhausen, G. and Rubin, D.J., *Chem. Phys. Lett.*, 69:185 (1980) of the uncomplexed and complexed forms were compared. There were no resonances with chemical shift differences  $>0.04$  p.p.m. in the  $^1\text{H}$  dimension, or  $>0.17$  p.p.m. in the  $^{15}\text{N}$  dimension. However, a number of resonances were reduced in intensity or completely absent in HSQC spectra of the complex. Residues that had the intensity of their HSQC resonances reduced significantly upon Pep-D1 binding, as compared to the ligand-free spectra, were identified as follows: for individual peaks, the ratio of peak intensities in the absence and presence of peptide was determined and converted to a log scale. The resulting distribution around the median is markedly skewed toward the left. A window that included  $>90\%$  of the residues with ratios that were higher than the median was applied to residues with chemical shifts below the median. Only residues with a ratio lower than the median and that were not contained within this window were considered to have undergone significant perturbation (according to these criteria, only residues with a ratio that was reduced to less than 0.65 of that of the median were considered to have undergone significant perturbation). These residues

include residues 94, 97, 112, 115, 117, 119, 120, 131, 132 and 135, the indole resonance of tryptophan<sup>119</sup>, and the side chain amides of asparagine<sup>113</sup>, and asparagine<sup>135</sup>. The resonances of 95, 96, 98, 99, 100, 118 and 134 and the indole resonance of tryptophan<sup>118</sup> were absent in the presence of ligand. Control experiments, using the L-peptide YGGRELPLPRF amide (SEQ ID NO: 2) resulted in 17 resonances that were shifted by  $\geq 0.1$  p.p.m. in the <sup>1</sup>H dimension or  $\geq 0.5$  p.p.m. in the <sup>15</sup>N dimension (residues 87, 89, 90, 92, 96, 98, 99, 100, 109, 111, 114, 116, 119, 121, 131, 132 and 135, the indole resonance of tryptophan<sup>119</sup>, and the side chain amides of asparagine<sup>113</sup> and asparagine<sup>135</sup>). Five resonances (95, 97, 117, 118 and 134) were absent in HSQC spectra of the complex. To validate the approach chosen to identify residues that interact with Pep-D1, this approach was applied to the spectra obtained with the peptide L-YGGRELPLPRF amide (SEQ ID NO: 2). With this approach, no new residues were identified that interacted with this peptide. The effect of peptide binding on the chemical shift of proline<sup>133</sup>, which forms part of pocket B, could not be observed in this type of experiment.

The binding of Pep-D1 results in the perturbation of the chemical shifts of the residues that form pocket A, as well as a patch of adjacent residues (Fig. 2C). Most of these residues also undergo changes in their chemical shifts upon binding of the L-peptide (Fig. 2B). Pocket A is likely to interact with the conserved arginine or lysine residues in the D-peptides in a manner that is analogous to the recognition of arginine residues in L-amino acid ligands. The interaction of this site with both the L- and D-amino acid ligands explains the competition observed for the binding of these two ligands.

Pep-D1 appears to occupy only part of the binding site that is contacted by the polyproline-type ligands for the SH3 domain (Fig. 3). Residues that form part of pocket B and pocket C (tyrosine<sup>90</sup> and tyrosine<sup>92</sup>), or that are

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adjacent to this pocket (valine<sup>87</sup> and leucine<sup>89</sup>), are not perturbed upon binding of Pep-D1 (Figs. 2 and 3). Mutational analysis suggests that, for L-amino acid ligands, interactions at these sites are required for high-affinity binding (Feng, S. et al., *Science*, 266:1241 (1994)). D-peptide inhibitors of higher affinity could therefore potentially be obtained by the design or selection of analogs of Pep-D1 or Pep-D2 (Table 1) that extend further along the groove, into pocket C of the SH3 domain.

Example 4 Use of the D-amino acid peptide ligands to design highly-enriched libraries

Random synthetic libraries do not cover enough conformational space to always allow for the isolation of high affinity ligands for a given target. A more promising strategy is the use of libraries that are biased towards structural elements known to interact with a target of interest. Specifically, the D-amino acid peptide sequences that interact with a given target that are isolated using the strategy described here are used as guidelines for the design of biased (D)-amino acid peptide and peptide-based libraries. These biased libraries may subsequently be used for the isolation of novel ligands. For example, the three classes of (D)-amino acid peptide ligands for the SH3 domain (Example 2) are useful to design (D)-amino acid peptide-based libraries highly enriched for SH3-binding peptides or peptidomimetics. Such libraries are useful to identify peptides which bind the SH3 domain and are particularly useful because they are biased toward (have an enhanced content of) peptides known to bind the SH3 domain. All SH3 domains for which the interaction with (L)-amino acid peptides has been examined bind to ligands with similar structural elements. Synthetic libraries based on the structure of (D)-amino acid ligands for the SH3 domain are also enriched in ligands for other SH3 domains. The

biased libraries based on the structure of the (D)-amino acid peptide ligands for the SH3 domain are useful for the isolation of ligands for a variety of SH3 domains.

A biased library is constructed, for example, as follows, based on the amino acid sequences of the 3 classes of peptides described in Example 2, which have been shown to bind the (D)-SH3 domain. A chemical peptide library of D-amino acids is prepared in which about 80% of the D-amino acid peptides of the library have the conserved amino acid residues and about 20% of the D-amino acid peptides of the library do not have the conserved amino acid residues.

Thus, the library, which is heavily biased for peptides having the general structure of peptides known to bind (D)-SH3 domain (i.e., 80%), can be used to isolate other D-amino acid peptides which have the conserved structure and bind to other SH3 domains (i.e., human). In addition, D-amino acid peptides in which the conserved amino acid residue has been altered (i.e., from the 20% of the D-amino acid peptides) and which binds to the SH3 domain with equivalent or greater affinity, can be isolated.

#### Example 5 Mirror Image Selection of an Enantiomeric DNA Inhibitor of Vasopressin

Vasopressin was prepared using conventional solid phase peptide synthesis.

In the first step toward generating an antagonist of the peptide hormone L-vasopressin, an *in vitro* selection was used to isolate single-stranded DNAs (ssDNAs) that bind synthetic D-vasopressin (DVP). A starting pool of  $10^{16}$  different 96-mers was synthesized on a DNA synthesizer. Each pool molecule contained a central region with 60 random-sequence positions that was flanked by two 18-nt defined regions. Molecules within this starting pool that bind DVP were enriched by affinity chromatography. The

affinity resin was prepared by coupling biotinylated DVP to streptavidin agarose. The ssDNA pool was radiolabeled, denatured, renatured in a physiological buffer and passed over this resin. After extensively washing the column, 5 molecules that bind DVP were eluted from the column with a molar excess of DVP. Eluted pool was amplified by PCR using a negative-strand "primer-terminator", that is, an oligonucleotide bearing a central segment of non-nucleotide material that blocks further extension of the positive 10 strand (Williams, K.P. and Bartel, D.P., *Nucleic Acids Res.*, 23:4220-4221 (1995)). Such PCR results in a substantial size difference between the two product strands, facilitating gel-purification of the positive-strand ssDNA pool. This combination of affinity 15 chromatography and PCR constituted one cycle of selection amplification.

After thirteen iterations of the selection-amplification cycle the pool was cloned. Analysis of 56 clones revealed only two different sequences, 96.2 and 20 96.4. Positive ssDNA of each sequence binds DVP and both have potential to form very similar secondary structures. Affinity chromatography studies of a set of deletion mutants has identified one, 69.1, that appears to bind DVP better than does the parent sequence. This aptamer is not 25 eluted from the DVP resin by L-vasopressin.

96.2

TCTAACGTGAATGATAGAcggcgaatccccaatgogaagcagtggttttgca  
GTCGAGTTGCTGTGTGCCGATGAgcgTAACTTATTCGACCAAA (SEQ ID  
NO:23)

30 96.4

TCTAACGTGAATGATAGAcggttacgtgtctacactatGTCGAGTTGCTGT  
GTGCCGATGAacgtgggattagagcgtgTAACTTATTCGACCAAA (SEQ ID  
NO:24)

69.1

TCTAACGTGAATGATAGAcgttacgtgtctacactatGTCGAGTTGCTGT  
GTGCCGATGAacgtgggat

(SEQ ID NO:25)

D-vasopressin aptamers. Sequence blocks shared by the  
5 two original aptamers are in capital letters. The defined-  
sequence segments that flanked the random-sequence region  
are indicated in bold. A segment derived from random-  
sequence positions that is shared by the two sequences of  
the final pool is in outline. The 69.1 aptamer is a  
10 deletion derivative of 96.4.

The information required to complete the selection-  
reflection procedures is described above. The synthesis of  
the 69.1 sequence using enantio-deoxyribose  
phosphoramidites will yield an aptamer that binds natural  
15 vasopressin but is not susceptible to nuclease degradation.  
However, before synthesizing such an aptamer, a second  
selection experiment can be performed, starting with a  
degenerate set of sequences based on the 69.1 sequence.  
This allows for isolation of sequence variants that bind  
20 DVP with higher affinity. Data from this second selection  
will also provide a reliable secondary structure model that  
will guide further deletion experiments, yielding a final  
DVP aptamer of smaller size and greater activity. This  
nuclease-proof aptamer will be tested in vitro as a ligand  
25 and in vivo as an antagonist of vasopressin.

### Equivalents

Those skilled in the art will recognize, or be able to  
ascertain using no more than routine experimentation, many  
equivalents to the specific embodiments of the invention  
30 described herein. Such equivalents are intended to be  
encompassed by the following claims.

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## SEQUENCE LISTING

## (1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

## (i) APPLICANT/INVENTOR:

(A) NAME: Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research  
(B) STREET: Nine Cambridge Center  
(C) CITY: Cambridge  
(D) STATE/PROVINCE: Massachusetts  
(E) COUNTRY: USA  
(F) POSTAL CODE/ZIP: 02142

## (i) APPLICANT/INVENTOR:

(A) NAME: Antonias Nicolaas Maria Schumacher  
(B) STREET: 14 Banks Street, #3  
(C) CITY: Sommerville  
(D) STATE/PROVINCE: Massachusetts  
(E) COUNTRY: USA  
(F) POSTAL CODE/ZIP: 02144

## (i) APPLICANT/INVENTOR:

(A) NAME: Peter S. Kim  
(B) STREET: 4 Middleby Road  
(C) CITY: Lexington  
(D) STATE/PROVINCE: Massachusetts  
(E) COUNTRY: USA  
(F) POSTAL CODE/ZIP: 02173

(ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: IDENTIFICATION OF ENANTIOMERIC LIGANDS

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 25

## (iv) CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:

(A) ADDRESSEE: Hamilton, Brook, Smith & Reynolds, P.C.  
(B) STREET: Two Militia Drive  
(C) CITY: Lexington  
(D) STATE: Massachusetts  
(E) COUNTRY: U.S.  
(F) ZIP: 02173

## (v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:

(A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk  
(B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible  
(C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS  
(D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.30

## (vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:

(A) APPLICATION NUMBER:  
(B) FILING DATE:  
(C) CLASSIFICATION:

## (vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:

(A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 08/627,497  
(B) FILING DATE: 28-MAR-1996  
(C) CLASSIFICATION:

(vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:

(A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 60/001,067  
(B) FILING DATE: 11-JUN-1995  
(C) CLASSIFICATION:

(vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:

(A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 08/482,309  
(B) FILING DATE: 07-JUN-1995  
(C) CLASSIFICATION:

(vii) PRIOR APPLICATION DATA:

(A) APPLICATION NUMBER: US 08/433,572  
(B) FILING DATE: 03-MAY-1995  
(C) CLASSIFICATION:

(viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:

(A) NAME: Granahan, Patricia  
(B) REGISTRATION NUMBER: 32,227  
(C) REFERENCE/DOCKET NUMBER: WHI95-04A3

(ix) TELECOMMUNICATION INFORMATION:

(A) TELEPHONE: 617-861-6240  
(B) TELEFAX: 617-861-9540

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
(A) LENGTH: 60 amino acids  
(B) TYPE: amino acid  
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

Gly	Gly	Val	Thr	Thr	Phe	Val	Ala	Leu	Tyr	Asp	Tyr	Glu	Ser	Arg	Thr
1				5					10					15	
Glu	Thr	Asp	Leu	Ser	Phe	Lys	Lys	Gly	Glu	Arg	Leu	Gln	Ile	Val	Asn
			20					25					30		
Asn	Thr	Glu	Gly	Asp	Trp	Trp	Leu	Ala	His	Ser	Leu	Thr	Thr	Gly	Gln
		35					40					45			
Thr	Gly	Tyr	Ile	Pro	Ser	Asn	Tyr	Val	Ala	Pro	Ser				
	50					55					60				

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 12 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide



(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

Tyr Gly Gly Arg Glu Leu Pro Pro Leu Pro Arg Phe  
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 20 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: Modified-site
- (B) LOCATION: 5
- (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /product= "OTHER"

/note= "The Ser at this location can be either Ser or Cys."

(ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: Modified-site
- (B) LOCATION: 16
- (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /product= "OTHER"

/note= "Ser at this location can be either Ser or Cys."

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

Ala Asp Gly Ala Ser Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Ser  
1 5 10 15  
Gly Ala Gly Ala  
20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 85 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (other)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

CTATTCTCAC TCGGCCGACG GGGCTTSCNN SNNSNNSNNS NNSNNSNNSN NSNNSNNSTS 60  
CGCCGCTGGG GCCGAAACTG TTGAA 85

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 14 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

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(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:5:

Ala Ser Trp Arg Tyr Asn Tyr Ala Phe Met Arg Tyr Ser Ala  
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 14 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:6:

Ala Ser Met Trp Met Tyr Pro Tyr Pro Trp Gly Val Ser Ala  
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 10 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

Leu Pro Glu Val Pro Pro Leu Val Ala Pro  
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 10 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:8:

Leu Ala Arg Ser Arg Leu Pro Ala Ile Pro  
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 10 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

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(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:9:

Arg	Met	Ser	Pro	Leu	Val	Pro	Leu	Arg	Asn
1				5					10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:10:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 12 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:10:

Cys	Leu	Ala	Arg	Ser	Arg	Leu	Pro	Ala	Ile	Pro	Ser
1				5					10		

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 14 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

Arg	Cys	Leu	Ser	Gly	Leu	Arg	Leu	Gly	Leu	Val	Pro	Cys	Ala
1				5					10				

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 14 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

Ala	Cys	Lys	Arg	Phe	Val	Trp	Arg	Gly	Gln	Ala	Leu	Cys	Ala
1				5					10				

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 12 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single

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(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:

Cys Lys Arg Phe Val Trp Arg Gly Gln Ala Leu Cys  
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 12 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:

Cys Ser Arg Ala Ser Trp Arg Gly Leu Leu Phe Cys  
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:15:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 12 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:15:

Cys Trp Tyr Leu Gly Tyr Trp Pro Gly Gln Glu Cys  
1 5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:16:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 12 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:16:

Cys Leu Ser Gly Leu Arg Leu Gly Leu Val Pro Cys  
1 5 10

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## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:17:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
  - (A) LENGTH: 12 amino acids
  - (B) TYPE: amino acid
  - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
  - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:17:

Cys Leu Met Gly Leu Arg Leu Gly Leu Leu Pro Cys  
1                    5                    10

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:18:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
  - (A) LENGTH: 12 amino acids
  - (B) TYPE: amino acid
  - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
  - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:18:

Cys Ala Tyr Gly Phe Lys Leu Gly Leu Ile Lys Cys  
1                    5                    10

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:19:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
  - (A) LENGTH: 11 amino acids
  - (B) TYPE: amino acid
  - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
  - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:19:

Cys Lys Arg Phe Trp Arg Gly Gln Ala Leu Cys  
1                    5                    10

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:20:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
  - (A) LENGTH: 12 amino acids
  - (B) TYPE: amino acid
  - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
  - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

## (ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: Modified-site
- (B) LOCATION: 1
- (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /product= "OTHER"

/note= "The amino acid at this location can also be Cys."

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## (ix) FEATURE:

- (A) NAME/KEY: Modified-site
  - (B) LOCATION: 12
  - (D) OTHER INFORMATION: /product= "OTHER"
- /note= "The amino acid at this location can also be Cys."

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:20:

Ser Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Xaa Ser  
 1 5 10

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:21:

## (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 12 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

## (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:21:

Ser Arg Met Ser Pro Leu Val Pro Leu Arg Asn Ser  
 1 5 10

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:22:

## (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 15 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

## (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:22:

Tyr Arg Cys Leu Ser Gly Leu Arg Leu Gly Leu Val Pro Cys Ala  
 1 5 10 15

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:23:

## (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 96 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

## (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (other)

## (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:23:

TCTAACGTGA ATGATAGACG GCGAATCCCC AATGCGAAGC AGTGTTTTTG CAGTCGAGTT 60  
 GCTGTGTGCC GATGAGCGTT AACTTATTCG ACCAAA 96

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## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:24:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
(A) LENGTH: 96 base pairs  
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid  
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (other)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:24:

TCTAACGTGA ATGATAGACG TTACGTGTCT ACACTATGTC GAGTTGCTGT GTGCCGATGA 60  
ACGTGGGATT AGAGCGTGTT AACTTATTCG ACCAAA 96

## (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:25:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:  
(A) LENGTH: 69 base pairs  
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid  
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single  
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (other)

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:25:

TCTAACGTGA ATGATAGACG TTACGTGTCT ACACTATGTC GAGTTGCTGT GTGCCGATGA 60  
ACGTGGGAT 69

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of producing a macromolecule of non-natural handedness that binds to a target macromolecule of natural handedness, comprising the steps of:
  - a) providing an enantiomer of the target macromolecule or of a domain characteristic thereof;
  - b) providing a library of macromolecules of natural handedness;
  - c) contacting the library of b) with the enantiomer of a), under conditions appropriate for binding of a macromolecule of natural handedness in the library with the enantiomer of a), whereby the enantiomer of a) binds a macromolecule of natural handedness present in the library; and
  - d) producing the enantiomer of the macromolecule of natural handedness which is bound to the enantiomer of a),wherein the enantiomer of d) is a macromolecule of non-natural handedness which binds to the target macromolecule of natural handedness.
2. A method of producing a macromolecule of non-natural handedness that binds to a target macromolecule of natural handedness, comprising the steps of:
  - a) providing an enantiomer of the target macromolecule or of a domain characteristic thereof;
  - b) providing a library of macromolecules of natural handedness;
  - c) contacting the library of b) with the enantiomer of a), under conditions appropriate for binding of a macromolecule of natural handedness in the library with the enantiomer of a); whereby the



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- enantiomer of a) binds a macromolecule of natural handedness present in the library;
- d) identifying a macromolecule which is bound to the enantiomer of a);
- 5 e) determining the sequence of the macromolecule of natural handedness identified in d); and
- e) producing a macromolecule of non-natural handedness which is the enantiomer of the macromolecule identified in d) or of a
- 10 characteristic domain thereof,
- wherein the enantiomer of e) is a macromolecule of non-natural handedness which binds to the target macromolecule of natural handedness.
3. The method of Claim 2 wherein the target macromolecule
- 15 is a protein.
4. The method of Claim 3 wherein the protein is selected from the group consisting of: vasopressin, interleukin-8, thrombomodulin EGF-like domain, GPII<sub>b</sub>-III<sub>a</sub> cytoplasmic domain, Factor VIIa GLA domain,
- 20 Factor IX EGF-like domain, HIV protease, NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal SH3 domain GRB2, COOH-terminal SH3 domain GRB2, P120<sup>GAP</sup> SH3 domain, vascular permeability factor and vascular endothelial growth factor.
5. The method of Claim 2 wherein the target macromolecule
- 25 is an oligonucleotide.
6. The method of Claim 5 wherein the oligonucleotide is selected from the group consisting of: HIV RRE, HIV Tar and BCR-AB1 fusion DNA sequences.
7. A method of producing a D amino acid peptide that
- 30 binds to a target L macromolecule, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a D amino acid peptide of the target L macromolecule or of a domain characteristic thereof;
- b) providing a library of L amino acid peptides;
- 5 c) contacting the library of b) with the D amino acid peptide of a), under conditions appropriate for binding of an L amino acid peptide in the library with the D amino acid peptide of a) whereby the peptide of a) binds an L amino acid peptide present in the library;
- 10 d) identifying an L amino acid peptide which is bound to the D amino acid peptide of a);
- e) determining the sequence of the L amino acid peptide identified in d); and
- 15 e) producing a D amino acid peptide of the L amino acid peptide identified in d) or of a characteristic domain thereof,
- wherein the D amino acid peptide of e) binds to the target L macromolecule.
- 20 8. The method of Claim 7 wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of: vasopressin, interleukin-8, thrombomodulin EGF-like domain, GPII<sub>b</sub>-III<sub>a</sub> cytoplasmic domain, Factor VIIa GLA domain, Factor IX EGF-like domain, HIV protease, NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal SH3 domain GRB2, COOH-terminal SH3 domain GRB2, P120<sup>GAP</sup>
- 25 SH3 domain, vascular permeability factor and vascular endothelial growth factor.
9. A method of producing an L oligonucleotide that binds to a target L macromolecule, comprising the steps of:
- 30 a) providing a D amino acid peptide of the target L macromolecule or of a domain characteristic thereof;
- b) providing a library of D oligonucleotide;

- 5 c) contacting the library of b) with the D amino acid peptide of a), under conditions appropriate for binding of a D oligonucleotide in the library with the D amino acid peptide of a), whereby the peptide of a) binds a D oligonucleotide present in the library;
- d) identifying a D oligonucleotide which is bound to the D amino acid peptide of a);
- 10 e) determining the sequence of the D oligonucleotide identified in d); and
- e) producing a L oligonucleotide of the D oligonucleotide identified in d) or of a characteristic domain thereof,
- 15 wherein the L oligonucleotide of e) binds to the target L macromolecule.
10. The method of Claim 9 wherein the macromolecule is selected from the group consisting of: vasopressin, interleukin-8, Thrombomodulin EGF-like domain, GPII<sub>b</sub>-III<sub>a</sub> cytoplasmic domain, Factor VIIa GLA domain, 20 Factor IX EGF-like domain, HIV protease, NH<sub>2</sub>-terminal SH3 domain GRB2, COOH-terminal SH3 domain GRB2, P120<sup>GAP</sup> SH3 domain, vascular permeability factor and vascular endothelial growth factor.
11. A method of identifying an L amino acid peptide which 25 binds a D amino acid peptide of interest, comprising the steps of:
- a) providing a phage display library which comprises L amino acid peptides displayed on phage surfaces;
- 30 b) contacting the phage display library of a) with the D amino acid peptide of interest, under conditions appropriate for binding of L amino acid peptides displayed on phage surfaces with the D amino acid peptide of interest; and

- c) identifying phages on the surfaces of which the D amino acid peptide of interest is bound to an L amino acid peptide displayed on the surface, thereby producing a D amino acid peptide-  
5 displayed L amino acid peptide complex  
wherein the displayed L amino acid peptide is an L amino acid peptide which binds the D amino acid of interest.
12. The method of Claim 11 further comprising making a D  
10 amino acid peptide which corresponds to the L amino acid identified and further comprising the steps of:  
d) determining the amino acid sequence of the L amino acid peptide displayed on the surface of the phage; and  
15 e) synthesizing the D amino acid peptide which corresponds to the amino acid sequence of the L amino acid peptide determined in d),  
thereby producing a D amino acid peptide which  
corresponds the L amino acid peptide displayed on the  
20 surface.
13. The method of Claim 11 wherein the L amino acid peptides displayed on the phage surfaces bind D amino acid peptides of the src SH3 domain.
14. A synthetic amino acid peptide which binds the src SH3  
25 domain.
15. A synthetic D amino acid peptide corresponding to all or a portion of the src SH3 domain.
16. A synthetic D amino acid peptide which binds a domain of an intracellular signaling protein.

17. A method of obtaining an L nucleic acid sequence which binds an L amino acid peptide of interest, comprising the steps of:
- a) providing a collection of D nucleic acid sequences;
  - b) contacting the D nucleic acid sequences of a) with a D amino acid peptide of interest, under conditions appropriate for binding of the D nucleic acid sequences with the D amino acid peptide of interest;
  - c) isolate a D nucleic acid sequence which binds to the D amino acid peptide;
  - d) determine the nucleotide sequence of the D nucleic acid sequence of c); and
  - e) prepare a nucleic acid sequence having the nucleotide sequence of d) using L nucleotides, wherein the nucleic acid sequence of e) is an L nucleic acid sequence which binds an L amino acid peptide.
18. A D amino acid peptide identified by the method of Claim 7.
19. An L oligonucleotide identified by the method of Claim 9.
20. A macromolecule of non-natural handedness, produced by the method of Claim 1, that binds to a target macromolecule of natural handedness, wherein the target macromolecule is selected from the group consisting of: proteins, oligonucleotides and phospholipids.
21. A macromolecule of non-natural handedness of Claim 20, which binds to a target macromolecule and the target macromolecule is a protein selected from the group

consisting of: intracellular signaling proteins and domains thereof; chemokines; cytokines; enzymes; growth factors; growth factor receptors and domains thereof; transcription factors and domains thereof; and hormones.

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22. A macromolecule of non-natural handedness of Claim 21 wherein the target macromolecule is selected from the group consisting of: SH3 domains; SH2 domains; PH domains;  $\alpha$ -chemokine;  $\beta$ -chemokine; IL-1; TNF; lymphotoxin- $\alpha$ ; IL-1 $\beta$ ; IL-6; M-CSF; TGF; protein kinase C; phospholipase C; phospholipase D; growth factors and growth factor receptors in the PDGF family, EGF family, FGF family, IGF family, HFG family, VEGF family, neurotrophin family, Eph family, Class I cytokine family, GH family, IL-3 family, IL-6 family, IL-2 family, Class II cytokine family or TNF family; protein kinases; protein phosphatases; cyclins; Cdc proteins; Ets domain; bZIP; rel homology domain; STATs; NF-ATs; TCF; Fos; JAKs; human CD2; human CD58; human endothelin; heregulin- $\alpha$ ; human interleukin-1 $\beta$  converting enzyme; human macrophage inflammatory protein 1- $\beta$ ; platet factor 4; human melanoma growth stimulating activity; GRO/melanoma growth stimulating activity; MHC molecules; bacterial muramidase; kringle domains; ras; ras-GAP; selections; Pleckstrin homology domains; stromelysin; thrombin; tissue factor; calmodulin; CD4; collagenase; dihydrofolate reductase; fibronectin; fibronectin type III modules; G-protein subunits; vasopressin; Factor IX GLA domain; factor; interleukin-8; thrombomodulin EGF-like domain; GPII $_b$ -III $_a$  cytoplasmic domain; Factor VIIa GLA domain; Factor IX EGF-like domain; human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) proteins; NH $_2$ -terminal SH3 domain GRB2; COOH-terminal SH3 domain GRB2; P120<sup>GAP</sup> SH3 domain;
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vascular permeability factor and vascular endothelial growth factor.

23. A macromolecule of non-natural handedness of Claim 20,  
which binds to a target macromolecule and the target  
5 macromolecule is an oligonucleotide selected from the  
group consisting of: HIV RRE; HIV Tar; and BCR-AB1  
fusion DNA sequences.
24. A macromolecule of non-natural handedness of Claim 20  
which binds to a target macromolecule and the target  
10 macromolecule is a phospholipid selected from the  
group consisting of: phosphoinositide;  
phosphoinositidase C; phosphoinositide 3-kinase;  
phosphatidylinositol; phosphatidylinositol 3-  
phosphate; phosphatidylinositol (4,5)bisphosphate;  
15 phosphatidylinositol (3,4,5)triphosphate;  
phosphatidylcholine; phosphatidylethanolamine;  
phosphatidic acid; inositol (1,4) bisphosphate;  
inositol (1,4,5) triphosphate; diacylglycerol;  
sphingosine; sphingosine phosphate; sphingosine  
20 phosphocholine and ceramide.
25. A macromolecule of non-natural handedness, produced by  
the method of Claim 7, that binds to a target  
macromolecule of natural handedness, wherein the  
target macromolecule is selected from the group  
25 consisting of: proteins, oligonucleotides and  
phospholipids.
26. A macromolecule of non-natural handedness of Claim 25,  
which binds to a target macromolecule and the target  
macromolecule is a protein selected from the group  
30 consisting of: intracellular signaling proteins and  
domains thereof; chemokines; cytokines; enzymes;  
growth factors; growth factor receptors and domains

thereof; transcription factors and domains thereof;  
and hormones.

27. A macromolecule of non-natural handedness of Claim 26  
wherein the target macromolecule is selected from the  
group consisting of: SH3 domains; SH2 domains; PH  
domains;  $\alpha$ -chemokine;  $\beta$ -chemokine; IL-1; TNF;  
lymphotoxin- $\alpha$ ; IL-1 $\beta$ ; IL-6; M-CSF; TGF; protein kinase  
C; phospholipase C; phospholipase D; growth factors  
and growth factor receptors in the PDGF family, EGF  
family, FGF family, IGF family, HFG family, VEGF  
family, neurotrophin family, Eph family, Class I  
cytokine family, GH family, IL-3 family, IL-6 family,  
IL-2 family, Class II cytokine family or TNF family;  
protein kinases; protein phosphatases; cyclins; Cdc  
proteins; Ets domain; bZIP; rel homology domain;  
STATs; NF-ATs; TCF; Fos; JAKs; human CD2; human CD58;  
human endothelin; heregulin- $\alpha$ ; human interleukin-1 $\beta$   
converting enzyme; human macrophage inflammatory  
protein 1- $\beta$ ; platelet factor 4; human melanoma growth  
stimulating activity; GRO/melanoma growth stimulating  
activity; MHC molecules; bacterial muramidase; kringle  
domains; ras; ras-GAP; selectins; Pleckstrin homology  
domains; stromelysin; thrombin; tissue factor;  
calmodulin; CD4; collagenase; dihydrofolate reductase;  
fibronectin; fibronectin type III modules; G-protein  
subunits; vasopressin; Factor IX GLA domain; factor;  
interleukin-8; thrombomodulin EGF-like domain; GPII $_b$ -  
III $_a$  cytoplasmic domain Factor VIIa GLA domain; Factor  
IX EGF-like domain; human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)  
proteins; NH $_2$ -terminal SH3 domain GRB2; COOH-terminal  
SH3 domain GRB2; P120<sup>GAP</sup> SH3 domain; vascular  
permeability factor; vascular endothelial growth  
factor.

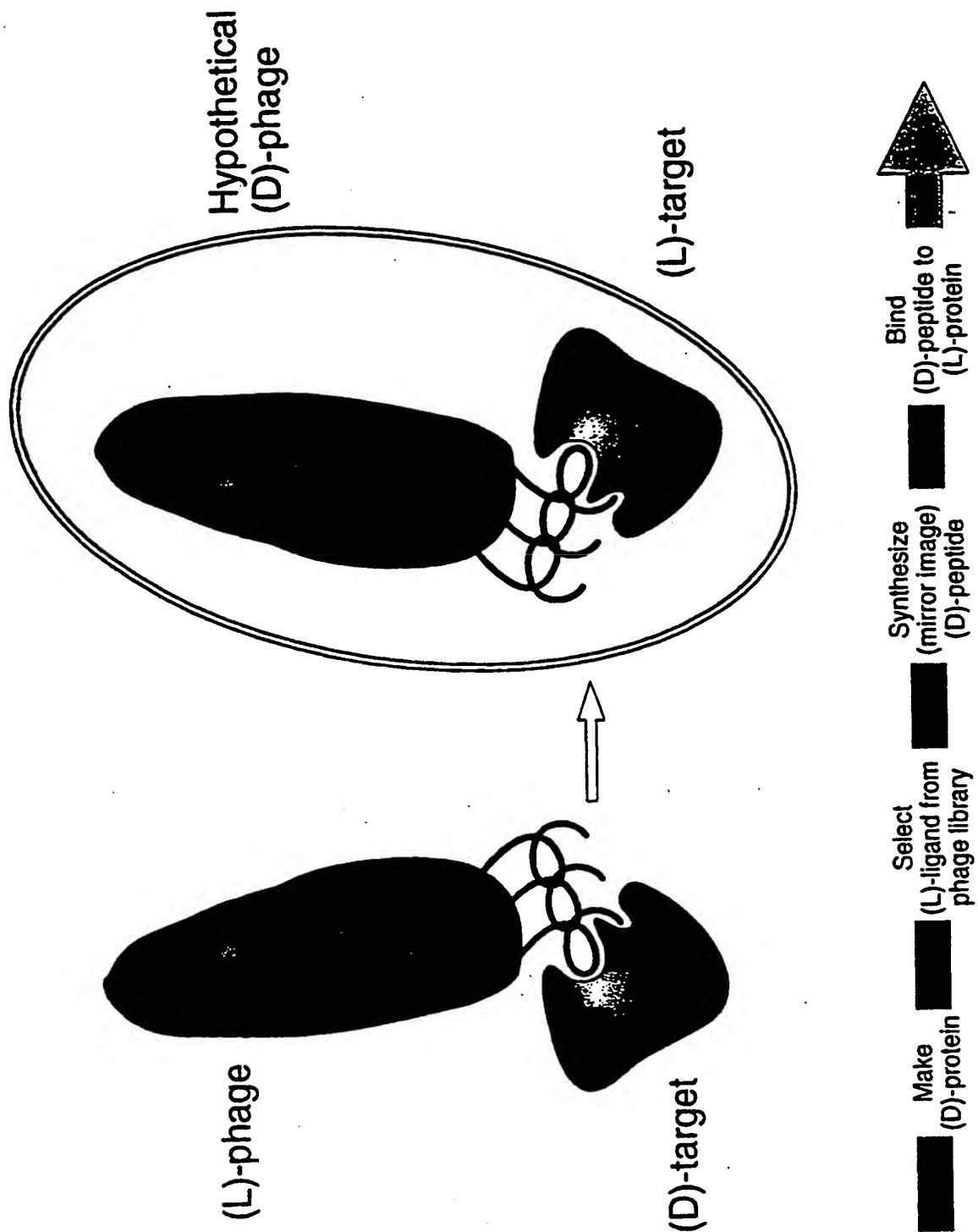


28. A macromolecule of non-natural handedness of Claim 25, which binds to a target macromolecule and the target macromolecule is an oligonucleotide selected from the group consisting of: HIV RRE; HIV Tar; and BCR-AB1 fusion DNA sequences.
29. A macromolecule of non-natural handedness of Claim 25 which binds to a target macromolecule and the target macromolecule is a phospholipid selected from the group consisting of: phosphoinositide; phosphoinositidase C; phosphoinositide 3-kinase; phosphatidylinositol; phosphatidylinositol 3-phosphate; phosphatidylinositol (4,5)bisphosphate; phosphatidylinositol (3,4,5)triphosphate; phosphatidylcholine; phosphatidylethanolamine; phosphatidic acid; inositol (1,4) bisphosphate; inositol (1,4,5) triphosphate; diacylglycerol; sphingosine; sphingosine phosphate; sphingosine phosphocholine and ceramide.
30. A method of Claim 9 wherein the target macromolecule is vasopressin
31. A method of Claim 30 where the L oligonucleotide that binds the target macromolecule is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO.: 23, SEQ ID NO.: 234 and SEQ ID NO.: 25.
32. A process for producing a derivative of a macromolecule of non-natural handedness that binds to a target macromolecule of natural handedness, comprising the steps of:
- a) producing the macromolecule of non-natural handedness that binds to a target macromolecule of natural handedness;

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- b) providing an enantiomer of the target macromolecule or of a domain characteristic thereof;
- 5 c) providing a library of macromolecule of natural handedness;
- d) contacting the library of c) with the enantiomer of b), under conditions appropriate for binding of a macromolecule of natural handedness in the library with the enantiomer of b), whereby the  
10 enantiomer of b) binds a macromolecule of natural handedness present in the library;
- e) producing the enantiomer of the macromolecule of natural handedness which is bound to the enantiomer of b), wherein the enantiomer of e) is  
15 a macromolecule of non-natural handedness which binds to the target macromolecule of natural handedness; and
- f) producing a derivative of the macromolecule of non-natural handedness of e).

20 33. A derivative obtainable by the process of Claim 20.



THE FIGURE

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 6 C07K1/04 C07H21/00 G01N33/68 C07K14/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 C07K C07H G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	NATURE, vol. 368, 14 April 1994, LONDON GB, pages 651-653, XP002011492 P J FISHER ET AL.: "Calmodulin interacts with amphiphilic peptides composed of all D-amino acids" cited in the application see the whole document ---	18,21, 22,25, 27,33
X	NATURE, vol. 368, 21 April 1994, LONDON GB, pages 744-746, XP002011493 B J JAMESON ET AL.: "A rationally designed CD4 analogue inhibits experimental allergic encephalomyelitis" cited in the application see the whole document --- -/--	18,21, 22,25, 27,33

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☐ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 August 1996

Date of mailing of the international search report

0 3. 09. 96

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+ 31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+ 31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Masturzo, P

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	SCIENCE, vol. 266, 23 December 1994, LANCASTER, PA US, pages 2019-2021, XP002011494 C T DOOLEY ET AL.: "An all D-amino acid opioid peptide with central analgesic activity from a combinatorial library" cited in the application see the whole document ---	18,21, 22,25, 27,32
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X	CELL, vol. 75, no. 1, 8 October 1993, NA US, pages 25-36, XP002011499 I GOUT ET AL.: "The GTPase dynamin binds to and is activated by a subset of SH3 domains " see the whole document ---	14
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